

You've got to be Kidding Me – Prologue

SURVIVAL UNDER ATOMIC ATTACK THE OFFICIAL US GOVERNMENT BOOKLET

Executive Office of the President
National Security Resources Board
Civil Defense Office
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You can survive

You can live through an atom bomb raid and you won't have to have a Geiger counter, protective clothing, or special training in order to do it.

The secrets of survival are:

KNOW THE BOMB'S TRUE DANGERS. KNOW THE STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO ESCAPE THEM.

To begin with, you must realize that atom splitting is just another way of causing an explosion. While an atom bomb holds more death and destruction than man has ever before wrapped in a single package, its total power is definitely limited. Not even hydrogen bombs could blow the earth apart or kill us all by mysterious radiation. Because the power of all bombs is limited, your chances of living through an atomic attack are much better than you may have thought. In the city of Hiroshima, slightly over half the people who were a mile from the atomic explosion are still alive. At Nagasaki, almost 70 percent of the people a mile from the bomb lived to tell their experiences. Today thousands of survivors of these two atomic attacks live in new houses built right where their old ones once stood. The war may have changed their way of life, but they are not riddled with cancer. Their children are normal. Those who were temporarily unable to have children because of the radiation now are having children again.

WHAT ARE YOUR CHANCES?

If a modern A-bomb exploded without warning in the air over your home town tonight, your calculated chances of living through the raid would run something like this:

Should you happen to be one of the unlucky people right under the bomb, there is practically no hope of living through it. In fact, anywhere within one-half mile of the center of explosion, your chances of escaping are about 1 out of 10.

On the other hand, and this is the important point, from one-half to 1 mile away, you have a 50-50 chance.

From 1 to 1.5 miles out, the odds that you will be killed are only 15 in 100.

And at points from 1.5 to 2 miles away, deaths drop all the way down to only 2 or 3 out of each 100.

Beyond 2 miles, the explosion will cause practically no deaths at all.

Naturally, your chances of being injured are far greater than your chances of being killed. But even injury by radioactivity does not mean that you will be left a cripple, or doomed to die an early death. Your chances of making a complete recovery are much the same as for everyday accidents. These estimates hold good for modern atomic bombs exploded without warning.

“Modern” atomic bomb, as used in this booklet, refers to the “nominal” bomb described in the “Effects of Atomic Weapons” published in June 1950 by the Atomic Energy Commission.

WHAT ABOUT SUPER BOMBS?

Do not be misled by loose talk of imaginary weapons a hundred or a thousand times as powerful. All cause destruction by exactly the same means, yet one 20000-ton bomb would not create nearly as much damage as 10000 two-ton bombs dropped a little distance apart. This is because the larger bombs "waste" too much power near the center of the explosion. From the practical point of view, it doesn't matter whether a building near the center of the explosion is completely vaporized or whether it is simply knocked into a pile of rubble.

To be more specific, a modern atomic bomb can do heavy damage to houses and buildings roughly 2 miles away. But doubling its power will extend the range of damage to only about 2.5 miles. In the same way, if there were a bomb 100 times as powerful, it would reach out only a little more than 4.5, not 100 times as far.

And remember: All these calculations of your chances of survival assume that you have absolutely no advance warning of the attack.

Just like fire bombs and ordinary high explosives, atomic weapons cause most of their death and damage by blast and beat. So first let's look at a few things you can do to escape these two dangers.

WHAT ABOUT BLAST?

Even if you have only a second's warning, there is one important thing you can do to lessen your chances of injury by blast: Fall flat on our face.

More than half of all wounds are the result of being bodily tossed about or being struck by falling and flying objects. If you lie down flat, you are least likely to be thrown about. If

you have time to pick a good spot, there is less chance of your being struck by flying glass and other things.

If you are inside a building, the best place to flatten out is close against the cellar wall. If you haven't time to get down there, lie down along an inside wall, or duck under a bed or table. But don't pick a spot right opposite the windows or you are almost sure to be pelted with shattered glass.

If caught out-of-doors, either drop down alongside the base of a good substantial building – avoid flimsy, wooden ones likely to be blown over on top of you – or else jump in any handy ditch or gutter.

When you fall flat to protect yourself from a bombing, don't look up to see what is coming. Even during the daylight hours, the flash from a bursting A-bomb can cause several moments of blindness, if you're facing that way. To prevent it, bury your face in your arms and hold it there for 10 or 12 seconds after the explosion. That will also help to keep flying glass and other things out of your eyes.

WHAT ABOUT BURNS?

Flash burns from the A-bomb's light and heat caused about 30 percent of the injuries at Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Near the center of the burst the burns are often fatal. People may be seriously burned more than a mile away, while the heat can be felt on the bare face and hands at 4 or 5 miles.

To prevent flash burns, try to find a shelter where there is a wall, a high bank or some other object between you and the bursting bomb. You can expect that the bomber will aim for the city's biggest collection of industrial buildings.

A little bit of solid material will provide flash protection even close to the explosion. Farther out, the thinnest sort of thing – even cotton cloth – will often do the trick.

If you work in the open, always wear full-length, loose-fitting, light-colored clothes in time of emergency. Never go around with your sleeves rolled up. Always wear a hat – the brim may save you a serious face burn.

WHAT ABOUT RADIOACTIVITY?

In all stories about atomic weapons, there is a great deal about radioactivity. Radioactivity is the only way – besides size – in which the effects of A or H bombs are different from ordinary bombs. But, with the exception of underwater or ground explosions, the radioactivity from atomic bursts is much less to be feared than blast and heat.

Radioactivity is not new or mysterious. In the form of cosmic rays from the sky, all of us have been continually bombarded by radiation every hour and day of our lives. We all have also breathed and eaten very small amounts of radioactive materials without even

knowing it. For over half a century, doctors and scientists have experimented and worked with X-rays and other penetrating forms of energy. Because of all this experience, we actually know much more about radioactivity and what it does to people than we know about infantile paralysis, colds, or some other common diseases.

It is easy to understand how radioactivity works if we think of how sunlight behaves. In the northern part of the world, winter's slanting sun rays seldom cause sunburn, but the hotter rays of the summer sun often do. Still, just a few moments in the midsummer sun will not give you a tan or sunburn. You have to stay in its hot rays for some time before you get a burn. What's more, bad sunburn on just the face and hands may hurt, but it won't seriously harm you. On the other hand, if it covers your whole body, it can make you very sick, or sometimes even cause death.

In the same way, the harm that can come to you from radioactivity will depend on the power of the rays and particles that strike you, upon the length of time you are exposed to them, and on how much of your body is exposed.

WHAT IS "INITIAL" RADIOACTIVITY?

Broadly speaking, atomic explosions produce two different kinds of radioactivity. First - and most important in an air burst - is an extremely powerful invisible burst of rays and particles thrown off at the time of explosion. This kind is called "initial" or explosive radioactivity. Its rays and particles fly out quickly, then promptly die. There is danger from them only for little more than a minute. The second type of radioactivity - lingering radioactivity - will be described later.

The injury range of the explosive radioactivity from a modern A-bomb is a little over 1 mile, if the bomb is exploded about 2000 feet in the air. If it is exploded much higher, some of the radiation may not reach the ground, so the range may be less. If it is exploded much lower, the radiation also may not reach out as far, because it would be blocked by the ground or by buildings.

A little more than a mile away, the principal effects of the few dying rays that struck you could be seen only as temporary blood changes in a doctor's examination. You probably wouldn't even realize you had been exposed.

A little less than a mile from the explosion center, if you are unprotected, you are almost sure to suffer illness. Less than two-thirds of a mile away, those caught in the open are pretty sure to soak up a fatal dose of radioactivity.

Still, the possibility of your being caught without some protection is not very great. Even if you are on the street, there is a good chance that a building, or many buildings, will be between you and the burst, and they will partially or completely shield you.

Atomic explosions high above ground cause the most widespread damage. And, as happened in Japan, when an A-bomb goes off in the air you are far more likely to be

hurt by the bomb's blast and heat waves than by its radioactivity. At Hiroshima and Nagasaki slightly over one-half of all deaths and injuries were caused by blast. Nearly one-third of the casualties were from the heat flash.

Radioactivity alone caused only about 15 percent of all deaths and injuries

If the bomb were to go off close to the ground, or slightly below its surface, the range of the explosive radiation, as well as the range of the blast and heat, would be reduced. This is due to the fact that all three would be partially blocked by the earth, by nearby buildings and by other obstacles.

In an underwater burst, there would be much less to fear from blast and nothing to fear from heat. Practically all the explosive radioactivity would be absorbed by the water. However, there would be the second type of radioactivity to be described later on.

WHAT ABOUT "INDUCED" RADIOACTIVITY?

If an atomic bomb goes off in the air within two-thirds of a mile or slightly more of your home, there is no practical way of keeping explosive radioactivity out of the above-ground part of your house. It is possible that, at very short range, artificial, or induced radioactivity could be set up in gold, silver, and many other objects. However, this kind of radioactivity will never offer great danger, so don't throw away bandages and other first aid materials in the medicine cabinet. They will be perfectly safe to use.

Naturally, the radioactivity that passes through the walls of your house won't be stopped by tin or glass. It can go right through canned and bottled foods. However, this will not make them dangerous, and it will not cause them to spoil. Go ahead and use them, provided the containers are not broken open.

WHAT ABOUT "RADIATION SICKNESS"?

Should you be caught upstairs or in the open at the time of a bombing, you might soak up a serious dose of explosive radioactivity. Even so, the first indication that you had been pierced by the rays probably wouldn't show up for a couple of hours. Then you most likely would get sick at your stomach and begin to vomit. However, you might be sick at your stomach for other reasons, too, so vomiting won't always mean you have radiation sickness. The time it would take you to get sick would depend on how strong a dose you got. The stronger the dose, the quicker you would get sick. For a few days you might continue to feel below par and about 2 weeks later most of your hair might fall out. By the time you lost your hair you would be good and sick. But in spite of it all, you would still stand better than an even chance of making a complete recovery, including having your hair grow in again.

WHERE IS THE BEST PLACE TO GO?

If your house is close to the explosion, there is little you can do to protect it from the bomb's blast, or pressure wave. Within one-half mile of the surface point directly beneath the explosion, the shock wave from an atomic bomb is sure to flatten most houses. Out to a distance of about 1 mile, steel, brick, and wooden structures are likely to be damaged beyond repair. Farther out, there is less destruction, but serious damage may be expected to extend as far as 2 miles.

It is only wise to figure that the upper floors of most buildings near the explosion will be pushed in. This means the basement is probably the safest place to be. If you have a basement and time to get down to it, lie flat along the outer wall or near the base of some heavy supporting column. You would be even safer under a cellar work bench or heavy table. Stay away from the middle of the floor where failing beams and other objects are most likely to strike you.

Naturally, you run a risk of being trapped in the wreckage, but your over-all chances of escape from the bomb in most cases are many times greater than they would be upstairs. If your basement has two exits, you will be in less danger of being trapped.

Besides protecting you from blast and heat, basements also provide shielding from explosive radiation. Because, the lower you get, the more barriers against radiation there are likely to be between you and the bursting bomb. Down in the cellar you'll probably be shielded not only by other buildings, but also by earth and the cement foundations of your own house. Earth, concrete and steel are good radiation barriers.

If you have no basement, look around your immediate neighborhood for a nearby shelter you can get to quickly in an emergency. Such a shelter might be a culvert, a deep gully, or another building within easy reach. If you live in rolling country, there is probably a hill close to you. Even a high bank will offer some protection from most bursts if it is between you and the explosion. In choosing your shelter, assume that the enemy will aim for the industrial buildings.

If you live in a State where there is danger from sudden storms like cyclones or hurricanes, you may have a "cyclone cellar" or something similar. If so, you have a shelter that will give excellent protection against atomic bombs.

HOW SHOULD A HOUSE BE PREPARED?

Starting right now you should go in for "fireproof housekeeping". Don't let trash pile up around your house and always keep it in covered containers.

If you know you have time when an alert sounds, be sure to shut the doors and windows and pull down the shades. This will help keep out fire sparks.

If you have shutters or venetian blinds, or heavy drapes, they will also provide some protection against harm from flying glass.

Several other household precautions should be taken promptly. Atomic bombs set off

high above ground seldom cause breaks in underground gas or water mains. However, shaking and twisting of the buildings by the blast wave sometimes snaps off household inlets at the point where they enter the basement. This may allow gas or oil to flow into your cellar.

To lessen the danger of fires and explosions that could result from this leakage, you should throw the electric switch that shuts off your oil burner.

Your local utility companies can give you detailed instructions about your gas, pilot lights, and so on.

If you have a coal-burning furnace or wood stove, be sure to close all its fuel and draft doors. In other words, do all you can to prevent sparks and to put out or cover open flames.

Should attack come without warning, take these same precautions right after the raid. Keep at least one flashlight handy and don't strike a match to light your way down into a darkened basement. Gas or oil fumes may be present and an explosion could result.

WHAT ABOUT LINGERING RADIOACTIVITY?

Knowing how to protect yourself from blast, heat, and explosive radioactivity, only one major problem remains: That is how to avoid harm from lingering radioactivity.

Explosive radioactivity bursts from the bomb at the time of explosion and lasts for only little more than a minute.

Lingering radioactivity remains for a longer time, from a few minutes to weeks or months, depending on the kind of radioactive material.

Lingering radioactivity may become a danger when atomic bombs are exploded on the ground, underground, or in the water. Air bursts leave no dangerous lingering radioactivity.

Most lingering radioactivity comes from left-over bomb wastes, or "ashes," technically called fission products. They consist of countless billions of fragments, or pieces, of atoms split up in the explosion. Smaller, and usually less dangerous, amounts of lingering radioactivity may be thrown off by scattered atoms of uranium or plutonium that fail to split up when the bomb goes off.

These totally invisible radioactive particles act much the same as ordinary, everyday dust. When present in any real quantity, they are scattered about in patches and contaminate, or pollute, everything they fall on, including people. While they can be removed easily from some surfaces, they stick very tightly to others. It is practically impossible to get absolutely all of them out of household corners and cracks. Most of the time, it is far easier to prevent pollution than it is to remove it.

WHAT ABOUT RADIOACTIVE CLOUDS?

In spite of the huge quantities of lingering radioactivity loosed by atomic explosions, people fortunately are not very likely to be exposed to dangerous amounts of it in most atomic raids. Since high-level bursts do the greatest damage, that is the kind we can expect most often. When atomic weapons are exploded in mid-air, the violent, upward surge of super-hot gases and air quickly sweeps practically all the radioactive ashes and unexploded bits of bomb fuel high into the sky. Most of them are carried harmlessly off in the drifting bomb clouds. High-level explosions definitely will not create "areas of doom" where no man dares enter and no plant can grow. In fact, they will leave very little radioactivity on the ground, even near the point of explosion. Firefighters and rescue teams can move promptly toward the center of destruction with little danger of facing harmful radiation.

And regardless of all you may have heard or read concerning the dangers of radioactive clouds, after the first minute and a half there is actually little or nothing to fear from those produced by high-level bursts. While most of the radioactive materials swept up into the sky eventually fall back to earth, they are so widely and so thinly spread that they are very unlikely to offer any real dangers to humans. Thousands of bombs would have to be set off in the air before serious ground contamination would be found over really large areas. There was no ground-level pollution of any importance following either of the two Japanese atomic bombings.

It was said earlier that 15 percent of the Japanese A-bomb deaths or injuries were caused by radioactivity. But not one of them was caused by the lingering kind. Explosive radioactivity caused them all.

WHAT ABOUT GROUND AND WATER BURSTS?

Bursts on or near the ground usually will leave a limited area of rather heavy and often dangerous pollution near the explosion point. In such cases, the possibility of harm from radioactivity falling out of the clouds is greater than in high-level explosions. But even so, a person could escape contamination by simply taking refuge inside a house or even by getting inside a car and rolling up the windows. And even if some of the wastes fell on him, he would lessen his chances of injury if he promptly shed his clothes and took a bath or shower.

In underwater explosions, large portions of the bomb's radioactive wastes will be "trapped" by the water and then spread over the immediate area. Under these conditions, serious ground pollution is to be expected.

After a water or underground burst a cloud of very radioactive mist or dust might form and spread, particularly downwind, injuring people who weren't well sheltered. If the explosion has been underground, at ground level, or in the water, stay in your shelter. If caught in the open, get indoors right away. Then stay indoors for at least an

hour or until you get instructions. It may be necessary to stay inside for three or four hours. The reason for this is that most lingering radioactivity loses its power very fast. So staying undercover for a while will greatly reduce the danger.

Any rain or mist that comes right after an atomic explosion should be considered dangerous, even though it may not always be radioactive. Keep from getting wet if you possibly can.

And remember that an air burst will leave no lingering radioactivity of importance, so after a few minutes it will be safe to get out and help fight fires or to help people who may need it.

HOW IS RADIOACTIVITY DETECTED?

While we cannot see, hear, feel, smell, or taste radioactivity, its presence readily can be detected with Geiger counters and other instruments. However, you won't have to know how to use one of these. Instead, you can rely on your local radiological defense teams – a small, specially trained corps of “meter readers” - to warn you of the presence of lingering radioactivity. You also can count on them to see to it that firefighters, rescue workers, and other people who may have to enter contaminated places do not remain there long enough to be injured.

But always remember our sunlight comparison. There is usually a whale of a difference between detectable and dangerous amounts of radioactivity. The rays and particles from an ordinary, luminous-dial wrist watch will cause a roar in the earphones of a Geiger counter, as just one example. We must not lose our heads just because radioactivity is reported as present.

WHAT ABOUT PROTECTING YOURSELF FROM LINGERING RADIOACTIVITY?

While attempting to avoid exposure to the bomb's blast, heat, and explosive radioactivity, also do what you can to keep from being showered by radioactive waste materials. Inside a shelter or building there is little or nothing to fear from this source. But if caught out-of-doors, try to grab hold of something to cover yourself with when you fall to the ground. A board or some sheets of newspaper might help, but a raincoat would be better. The object is, of course, to keep radioactive dust and raindrops off your body and clothing. When it's safe to get up, throw away your covering.

Always do what you can to help other people. There is no chance of your being harmed by radioactivity from the bodies of others, even if they have radiation injuries. Don't leave injured people where they may be burned. Direct rescue workers to persons trapped in the wreckage. If necessary to bandage open cuts and wounds and no standard first aid equipment is available, use parts of your own or the victim's clothing. But tear them from the under, not the outer garments. Underclothes are far less likely to be contaminated by radioactivity.

If you have walked through rubble from a ground burst or water from an underwater burst, be sure to change at least your outer garments and shoes. Outer clothes will automatically serve as a "trap" for most of the radioactivity you may accidentally pick up. By taking them off you will remove most of the contamination. If the clothing is heavily contaminated, it is best to bury it.

You also should manage to take a bath or shower, if you have been in an area of lingering radioactivity. It is important that all radioactive materials be removed as soon as possible from your body, and bathing is the only practical means of getting rid of them. You won't need special cleaning compounds. Warm water and soap are ideal.

In washing, pay particular attention to your hair, for that is one place where the wastes are sure to pile up. Also give your hands a good scrubbing and get all dirt out from under your fingernails. If there is a radiological defense man handy, have him check you with his meter after you've finished your clean-up. Should he find your body still radioactive, again scrub yourself from head to foot. Then do it a third time if necessary. You can remove practically all of the radioactivity if you keep at it.

Remember all this is necessary only for persons who have come in contact with radioactive materials in heavily contaminated areas.

WHAT ABOUT RADIOACTIVITY IN THE HOUSE?

A few simple steps will go a long way toward keeping your house from being contaminated by lingering radioactive wastes scattered about in some bombings. As a rule, it is far easier to prevent radioactive pollution of a household than it is to remove it. Keep all windows and doors closed for at least several hours after an atomic bombing. In fact, better leave them shut until civil defense authorities pass the word that there is no lingering radioactivity in your neighborhood. Should you get an official report that there is serious contamination in the vicinity, better cover all broken windows with blankets or cardboard.

Whenever there is widespread neighborhood Pollution, it will be impossible to keep your house absolutely free of it. A little is bound to seep in through cracks or else down the chimney. (By all means close the dampers in fireplace flues and shut off air conditioners and ventilating fans not equipped with special filters). Unless you are careful, some radioactivity is likely to be tracked in by people or pets. Keep your cat or dog indoors. And when you come in from outside, leave your shoes at the door, for their soles are likely to be covered with radioactive dusts. Better still, wear rubbers, galoshes or other disposable foot coverings over your shoes. Take these precautions, but don't worry. There isn't much chance really dangerous amounts will pile up in the house.

Should you help to clean up a contaminated area, you might get some radioactive materials on both your body and clothing. So don't go home and sit around in your work clothes. Take off your outer garments outdoors or in the basement. Then wash, if you

can, using warm water and plenty of soap. Never fail to launder your working clothes, but don't use the family washing machine. Scrub all contaminated objects in buckets or tubs used for that purpose only.

WHAT ABOUT FOOD AND WATER?

To prevent harm from accidentally eating or drinking radioactivity, throw out all unpackaged foods that were lying around where dust from ground bursts or mist from underwater bursts might have settled on them. And before opening canned or bottled goods, wash the outside of the containers thoroughly. That will remove most of the pollution that may have gotten on them. Also be sure that all cooking utensils and tableware are scrubbed clean in order to remove any invisible, radioactive dusts. Food and utensils that were in closed drawers or tight cupboards will be all right.

If it was an air burst, don't worry about the food in the house. It will be safe to use. Be careful of drinking water after atomic explosions. There is little or no chance that water actually inside household pipes at the time of attack will be made radioactive, if a little is drawn off right after the burst and placed in clean containers with covers, it should tide you over the immediate post-raid period.

But even if the water continues running, don't keep on using tap water for drinking purposes unless you have received official information that the city system is safe. This is not only because of radioactivity, but because of other dangers like typhoid that can come from damaged water systems. If you have to use city water before you get official information, boil it. Boiling won't remove radioactivity, but the chances that your water supply will be radioactive are pretty slim. Boiling will kill most germs that may get into damaged water mains.

WHAT ABOUT RADIOS AND TELEPHONES?

Neither explosive nor lingering radioactivity has any effect on the operation of most mechanical or electrical devices. Unless the wires are down or there is a power failure, both your lights and telephone should continue to work. But don't rush to the phone just to find out how Aunt Susie may have weathered the attack. Leave the lines open for real emergency traffic.

The bomb's radioactivity will not interfere with the operation of your radio. In the event of attack, be sure to turn it on. It maybe your main source of emergency instructions. And don't forget: Battery-operated portable sets, including those installed in automobiles, will continue to work even if the city power goes off. Television reception, like radio, won't be jammed by radioactivity.

WHAT ABOUT AUTOMOBILES?

One more household suggestion: In times of emergency don't park the family automobile on the street. Leave the way clear for emergency traffic. Keep the windows rolled

up to prevent possible contamination of the interior by underwater or ground bursts and don't worry whether or not it will run. Radioactivity won't interfere with operation of its fuel or ignition system.

WHAT ABOUT CHILDREN?

Everything in this booklet holds true for all members of the family, including children, old people, or shut-ins. It would be a good idea to talk over the facts with all members of the family to be sure each understands. People with school children should discuss the booklet with teachers and other parents at PTA meetings and similar gatherings. You may be sure that, in times of emergency, all schools will be well organized for the protection of children.

Children old enough to understand can be taught to do the right things. Younger children simply will have to depend on their parents.

TO SUM UP

To sum up, always remember that blast and heat are the two greatest dangers you face. The things that you do to protect yourself from these dangers usually will go a long way toward providing protection from the explosive radioactivity loosed by atomic explosions.

While the lingering radioactivity that occasionally follows some types of atomic bursts may be dangerous, still it is no more to be feared than typhoid fever or other diseases that sometimes follow major disasters. The only difference is that we can't now ward it off with a shot in the arm; you must simply take the known steps to avoid it.

If you follow the pointers in this little booklet, you stand far better than an even chance of surviving the bomb's blast, heat, and radioactivity. What's more, you will make a definite contribution to civil defense in your community, because civil defense must start with you. But if you lose your head and blindly attempt to run from the dangers, you may touch off a panic that will cost your life and put tremendous obstacles in the way of your Civil Defense Corps.

KILL THE MYTHS

ATOMIC WEAPONS WILL NOT DESTROY THE EARTH

Atomic bombs hold more death and destruction than man ever before has wrapped up in a single package, but their over-all power still has very definite limits. Not even hydrogen bombs will blow the earth apart or kill us all by radioactivity.

DOUBLING BOMB POWER DOES NOT DOUBLE DESTRUCTION

Modern A-bombs can cause heavy damage 2 miles away, but doubling their power would extend that range only to 2.5 miles. To stretch the damage range from 2 to 4 miles would require a weapon more than 8 times the rated power of present models.

RADIOACTIVITY IS NOT THE BOMB'S GREATEST THREAT

In most atom raids, blast and heat are by far the greatest dangers that people must face. Radioactivity alone would account for only a small percentage of all human deaths and injuries, except in underground or underwater explosions.

RADIATION SICKNESS IS NOT ALWAYS FATAL

In small amounts, radioactivity seldom is harmful. Even when serious radiation sickness follows a heavy dosage, there is still a good chance for recovery.

SIX SURVIVAL SECRETS FOR ATOMIC ATTACKS

ALWAYS PUT FIRST THINGS FIRST AND NEVER LOSE YOUR HEAD AND TRY TO GET SHIELDED

If you have time, get down in a basement or subway. Should you unexpectedly be caught out-of-doors, seek shelter alongside a building, or jump in any handy ditch or gutter.

DROP FLAT ON GROUND OR FLOOR

To keep from being tossed about and to lessen the chances of being struck by falling and flying objects, flatten out at the base of a wall, or at the bottom of a bank.

BURY YOUR FACE IN YOUR ARMS

When you drop flat, hide your eyes in the crook of your elbow. That will protect your face from flash burns, prevent temporary blindness and keep flying objects out of your eyes.

DON'T RUSH OUTSIDE RIGHT AFTER A BOMBING

After an air burst, wait a few minutes then go help to fight fires. After other kinds of bursts wait at least 1 hour to give lingering radiation some chance to die down.

DON'T TAKE CHANCES WITH FOOD OR WATER IN OPEN CONTAINERS

To prevent radioactive poisoning or disease, select your food and water with care. When there is reason to believe they may be contaminated, stick to canned and bottled things if possible.

DON'T START RUMORS

In the confusion that follows a bombing, a single rumor might touch off a panic that could cost your life.

FIVE KEYS TO HOUSEHOLD SAFETY

STRIVE FOR "FIREPROOF HOUSEKEEPING"

Don't let trash pile up, and keep waste paper in covered containers. When an alert sounds, do all you can to eliminate sparks by shutting off the oil burner and covering all open flames.

KNOW YOUR OWN HOME

Know which is the safest part of your cellar, learn how to turn off your oil burner and what to do about utilities.

HAVE EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES HANDY

Always have a good flashlight, a radio, first-aid equipment and a supply of canned goods in the house.

CLOSE ALL WINDOWS AND DOORS AND DRAW THE BLINDS

If you have time when an alert sounds, close the house up tight in order to keep out fire sparks and radioactive dusts and to lessen the chances of being cut by flying glass. Keep the house closed until all danger is past.

USE THE TELEPHONE ONLY FOR TRUE EMERGENCIES

Do not use the phone unless absolutely necessary. Leave the lines open for real emergency traffic.

Back Cover:

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Michael Katz Hyman sends along this brilliantly funny manual, NSRB DOC. 130 Survival Under Atomic Attack (1950).

Remember kids, "Beyond 2 miles, the explosion will cause practically no deaths at all."

The atomic age inspired all sorts of "you can survive" silliness, including this story from Friend of Wonk Stephen Schwartz:

My favorite story concerns the tale of Willard Libby, the former Atomic Energy Commission chairman who opposed public funding for shelters and insisted they could be constructed cheaply. To promote his cause, Libby wrote a 15-part newspaper series titled "You Can Survive Atomic Attack," featuring a less-than-\$30 "poor man's shelter" he had built in West Los Angeles out of railroad ties, old tires, and bags of dirt. "Libby's argument for the viability of the poor man's shelter was undercut somewhat when this structure was subsequently destroyed in a brushfire." When physicist and former colleague Leo Szilard heard about the fire, which occurred during the Cuban missile crisis, he said it proved not only "that God exists, but that He has a sense of humor."

You've got to be Kidding Me – Chapter 1

The title was my exact words when I finished reading the document. Kurstin asked what I was talking about and I gave her the pamphlet to read. Starfish Prime was a high-altitude nuclear test conducted by the United States of America on July 9, 1962, a joint effort of the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) and the Defense Atomic Support Agency. There is a picture of the explosion as viewed from Honolulu on Wiki.



Wiki or the poster called it the aurora. It's a good thing John Kennedy got Nikita Khrushchev to blink given the state of the US Civil Defense Program in 1962. Starfish Prime occurred before the crisis and it was the test of a Hydrogen warhead on a Thor missile and had a yield of 1.4Mt.

On 9 July 1962, at 09:00:09 Coordinated Universal Time, (which was 8 July, Honolulu time, at nine seconds after 11 p.m.), the Starfish Prime test was successfully detonated at an altitude of 400 kilometers. The coordinates of the detonation were 16 degrees, 28 minutes North latitude, 169 degrees, 38 minutes West longitude. The actual weapon yield was very close to the design yield, which has been described by various sources at different values in the range of 1.4 to 1.45 megatons.

The Thor missile carrying the Starfish Prime warhead reached a maximum height of about 1100 km (just over 680 miles), and the warhead was detonated on its downward

trajectory when it had fallen to the programmed altitude of 400 kilometers. The nuclear warhead detonated at 13 minutes and 41 seconds after liftoff of the Thor missile from Johnston Island.

Starfish Prime caused an electromagnetic pulse which was far larger than expected; so much larger that it drove much of the instrumentation off scale, causing great difficulty in getting accurate measurements. The Starfish Prime electromagnetic pulse also made those effects known to the public by causing electrical damage in Hawaii, about 1,445 kilometers away from the detonation point, knocking out about 300 streetlights, setting off numerous burglar alarms and damaging a telephone company microwave link. The EMP-damaged microwave link shut down telephone calls from Kauai to the other Hawaiian Islands.

A total of 27 small rockets were launched from Johnston Island to obtain experimental data from the Starfish Prime detonation. In addition, a large number of rocket-borne instruments were launched from a firing area at Barking Sands, Kauai in the Hawaiian Islands.

A very large number of United States military ships and aircraft were operating in support of Starfish Prime in the Johnston Island area and across the nearby North Pacific region.

A few military ships and aircraft were also positioned in the region of the South Pacific Ocean near the Samoan Islands. This location was at the southern end of the magnetic field line of the Earth's magnetic field from position of the nuclear detonation, an area known as the southern conjugate region for the test. In addition, an uninvited scientific expeditionary ship from the Soviet Union was stationed near Johnston Island for the test and another Soviet scientific expeditionary ship was located in the southern conjugate region near the Samoan Islands.

After the Starfish Prime detonation, bright auroras were observed in the detonation area as well as in the southern conjugate region on the other side of the equator from the detonation. According to one of the first technical reports, "The visible phenomena due to the burst were widespread and quite intense; a very large area of the Pacific was illuminated by the auroral phenomena, from far south of the south magnetic conjugate area (Tongatapu) through the burst area to far north of the north conjugate area (French Frigate Shoals)... At twilight after the burst, resonant scattering of light from lithium and other debris was observed at Johnston and French Frigate Shoals for many days confirming the long time presence of debris in the atmosphere. An interesting side effect was that the Royal New Zealand Air Force was aided in anti-submarine maneuvers by the light from the bomb."

In part, these auroral effects were predicted by Nicholas Christofilos, a scientist who had earlier worked on the Operation Argus high-altitude nuclear shots.

According to US atomic veteran Cecil R. Coale, some hotels in Hawaii offered *rainbow bomb* parties on their roofs for Starfish Prime, contradicting some reports that the artificial aurora was unexpected.

Pages 19–21 of “A ‘Quick Look’ at the Technical Results of Starfish Prime”, August 1962 states:

“At Kwajalein, 1,400 [nautical] miles [2,600 km; 1,600 mi] to the west, a dense overcast extended the length of the eastern horizon to a height of 5 or 8 degrees. At 0900 GMT a brilliant white flash burned through the clouds rapidly changing to an expanding green ball of irradiance extending into the clear sky above the overcast. From its surface extruded great white fingers, resembling cirro-stratus clouds, which rose to 40 degrees above the horizon in sweeping arcs turning downward toward the poles and disappearing in seconds to be replaced by spectacular concentric cirrus like rings moving out from the blast at tremendous initial velocity, finally stopping when the outermost ring was 50 degrees overhead.

“They did not disappear but persisted in a state of frozen stillness. All this occurred, I would judge, within 45 seconds. As the greenish light turned to purple and began to fade at the point of burst, a bright red glow began to develop on the horizon at a direction 50 degrees north of east and simultaneously 50 degrees south of east expanding inward and upward until the whole eastern sky was a dull burning red semicircle 100 degrees north to south and halfway to the zenith obliterating some of the lesser stars. This condition, interspersed with tremendous white rainbows, persisted no less than seven minutes.

“At zero time at Johnston, a white flash occurred, but as soon as one could remove his goggles, no intense light was present. A second after shot time a mottled red disc was observed directly overhead and covered the sky down to about 45 degrees from the zenith. Generally, the red mottled region was more intense on the eastern portions. Along the magnetic north-south line through the burst, a white-yellow streak extended and grew to the north from near zenith. The width of the white streaked region grew from a few degrees at a few seconds to about 5-10 degrees in 30 seconds. Growth of the auroral region to the north was by addition of new lines developing from west to east.

“The white-yellow auroral streamers receded upward from the horizon to the north and grew to the south and at about 2 minutes the white-yellow bands were still about 10 degrees wide and extended mainly from near zenith to the south. By about two minutes, the red disc region had completed disappearance in the west and was rapidly fading on the eastern portion of the overhead disc. At 400 seconds essentially all major visible phenomena had disappeared except for possibly some faint red glow along the north-south line and on the horizon to the north. No sounds were heard at Johnston Island that could be definitely attributed to the detonation.

“Strong electromagnetic signals were observed from the burst, as were significant magnetic field disturbances and earth currents.”

In 2006, Palmer Dyal described the particle and field measurements of the Starfish diamagnetic cavity and the injected beta flux into the artificial radiation belt in the *Journal of Geophysical Research*. His measurements describe the explosion from 0.1 milliseconds to 16 minutes after the detonation.

While some of the energetic beta particles followed the Earth's magnetic field and illuminated the sky, other high-energy electrons became trapped and formed radiation belts around the earth. There was much uncertainty and debate about the composition, magnitude and potential adverse effects from this trapped radiation after the detonation. The weaponeers became quite worried when three satellites in low earth orbit were disabled. These man-made radiation belts eventually crippled one-third of all satellites in low earth orbit. Seven satellites failed over the months following the test as radiation damaged their solar arrays or electronics, including the first commercial relay communication satellite, Telstar. Detectors on Telstar, TRAAC, Injun, and Ariel 1 were used to measure distribution of the radiation produced by the tests.

In 1963, Brown et al. reported in the *Journal of Geophysical Research* that Starfish Prime had created a belt of MeV electrons, and Wilmot Hess reported in 1968 that some Starfish electrons remained for five years. The Starfish EMP waveform measured by Richard L. Wakefield of Los Alamos led to a revolution in understanding this nuclear effect. Starfish Prime probably isn't so interesting to you but Kurstin and I were fascinated with anything we could learn about nuclear weapons.

Grandpa's Winchester model 62.



He bought me a Winchester model 9422.



We're Survivalists/Preppers. We're also young, in our late 20s. My family was Survivalist oriented from way back. My grandfather started that around the time of the Cuban Missile Crisis. That's how come I know so much about the Cuban Missile Crisis. We farmed in Kansas north of Liberal. South of Liberal was Oklahoma. Dad wasn't as enchanted with survivalism as Grandpa but Grandpa never gave him a chance to not prepare for whatever might come.

You'd would have thought that after the Crisis the US and Russia would stop their weapons development programs. They did just the opposite and by the time they slowed down they had enough weapons to destroy the planet 20 or 30 times. I liked my Grandpa and much to my father's chagrin, emulated him. Grandpa had a 1962 Winchester model 70 in .30-06 and a matching military rifle, a Garand. He was a fan of pump shotguns and had an 870 in 12 gauge. He wasn't picky about brands if they did what he expected the firearm to do.

I half expect Grandpa to buy me a used car when I graduated from High School, he could afford it. My Dad bought the car, and old Toyota.

"Jack I wanted you to have a rifle like my Garand. But they don't make them anymore and I had to settle for the Garand's successor, an M14. A person can't buy a new M14 because Mr. McNamara ordered them to be destroyed when they adopted the poodle shooter. There's a civilian rifle that is all but an M14 called the M1A. I bought you one and most of the trimmings. It has iron sights and a Burris red dot sight on an A.R.M.S. mount."



"Wow!"

"There's more to it if you can cool your heels. The model is called the Super Match and top of their line. I bought you 20 new USGI 20 round magazines and have the website where you can buy more. You can use the same mount for a riflescope if you want. Get

the A.R.M.S. throw lever rings. I had old Jake install a national match flashhider with a bayonet lug he got from Fulton Armory and I got you the bayonet. Puny little thing so you should look into getting something better. I bought you one case of surplus but I suggest you buy better ammo than that since it's a top of the line rifle."

Grandpa was close; the M-25 was the top of their line. The M-21 was a Super Match with an adjustable stock. Once I was out of school and farming fulltime I began to receive a better wage. It was enough that I could save up and buy a scope. I bought a Leupold Mark 4 4.5-14x50mm LR/T M1 Long Range Tactical Riflescope with the duplex reticle. Now I could get a pump shotgun like Grandpa's.

That fall, terrorists attacked the United States, flying commercial passenger jets into the Pentagon and World Trade Center. President Bush had only been in office for about 8 months. It changed my priorities. Initially my thoughts ran to increasing our preps. I was side tracked when Kurstin announced that she wouldn't be going to college and would probably find a job in town.

"What kind of job?"

"Whatever I can find. Nobody really cares that I emphasized college prep classes."

"And you didn't take any technical oriented classes?"

"I took typing and home economics. The remainder was mostly math and science classes aside from the mandatory classes like History and Civics."

"How about sewing?"

"That was included in Home Economics."

"I was thinking that if you were agreeable I should start saving for a diamond."

"You want to marry me?"

"What I want and what you decide may not be the same."

"Have any warts I don't know about?"

"You've known me since 9th grade so you should have figured that out on your own by now."

"Where would we live?"

"On the farm if Dad and Grandpa ok it. I was thinking either a singlewide or doublewide mobile home. I have my own horses and tack. Dad bought me that old Toyota for grad-

uation and Grandpa bought me a new rifle. I bought a Leupold Mk 4 variable scope and am trying to come up with a different bayonet.”

“What else do you have?”

“A Winchester model 9422 in .22LR and a case of surplus ammo for the M1A. Grandpa suggested getting a better bayonet for the M1A. I’m not exactly sure how to go about that.”

“If I can get a good job, it might be time for us to settle down and start raising our own family.”

“That’s a yes if I ask?”

“I’d have to think about if you asked.”

“Oh.”

“For maybe a microsecond.”

“I’ll have to save up for a diamond.”

“How long would it take you to save up for a pair of plain gold bands?”

“Not that long.”

“Then do it, Jack. When you have the bands, we’ll get a license and get married by our minister after he counsels us.”

“Do we have to go through all that?”

“We could elope and get married in Oklahoma. It would only take about 90 minutes each way and we could get married the same day.”

You had to get a blood test (up to 2004) and a license and then find someone to marry you. If you arrived late in the day, you got a motel room at one of the motels that advertised marriage services. I bought the most inexpensive bands I could find, 10 carat yellow gold. Kurstin and I left on a Thursday night, got the motel and got married on Friday. We consummated our marriage, eventually cleaned up and headed home.

“You got a winner there Jack; shame on you for leaving your family and Kurstin’s family out of the picture.”

“I’m sorry Grandpa; we just wanted to get it done.”

“She isn’t expecting is she?”

“No sir. At least I don’t believe she is. We consummated our marriage this morning and there was blood on the sheet.”

We were both virgins but it’s not that hard to figure out, we were both raised on farms. Kurstin knew how to can garden vegetables, collect and hand wash eggs and how to cook and sew. We had a big family meeting that included her family and mine. Eventually the decision was reached to erect a mobile home on our farm. Both families would contribute... her Dad and my Grandpa.

My Grandma died a few years back and Grandpa kept a room in the big old farmhouse after he turned the farming over to my Dad. Grandpa had slowly gifted the farm over to Dad, an only child, up to the gift limit set by the IRS. Mom and Dad bought more of the farm from the profits realized from the crops of wheat.

It was different with Kurstin’s family. Her Dad had inherited half of the farm and his sister the other half. Life insurance paid the estate taxes and her Dad bought the other half of the farm from her Aunt on a land sale contract with a low interest rate. Both their farm and our farm were full sections. We devoted 10 acres to the homestead and 30 acres to pasture. The other 600 acres was an unfenced plot where we grew hard red winter wheat.

You've got to be Kidding Me – Chapter 2

Kurstin never got a job in Liberal. She became a farm wife/homemaker or whatever the politically correct term is these days. Here in the Midwest we don't worry too much about being politically correct.

Grandpa bought a bayonet for a 1903 Springfield rifle for about \$250 and gave it and the M6 bayonet to a knife builder. He told the man to convert the Springfield bayonet to work on an M14 rifle like the M6 bayonet did. Personally, I believe that if they're close enough you have to use a bayonet, they're too darned close. It was a sniper rifle.

The first model of the M-1905 bayonet was manufactured between 1906 and 1922 by the Rock Island and Springfield Arsenals (marked SA or RI with the Ordnance Department symbol, along with year and serial number). Technically this was called the *Model of 1905* since the M numbering system did not begin until the mid-1920s. The blade was 16" in length and the bayonet was 20" overall. Each bayonet had its own unique serial number (range 1 to 1,196,000). The grips were made of wood inset to the metal of the handle. The metal parts of the bayonet were unfinished until about 1917, after which they were parkerized.

The second model M-1905 was manufactured during World War II, in 1942-1943. It is sometimes called the M-1942 model by collectors, but that is not official nomenclature. These bayonets were made by contract suppliers on this list (the letters in parentheses are how the bayonets from this supplier were marked):

- Wilde Drop Forge and Tool Company, Kansas City, MO (WT)
- Utica Cutlery Company, Utica, NY (UC)
- Union Fork and Hoe Company, Columbus, OH (UFH)
- Pal Blade and Tool Company, Holyoke, MA (PAL)
- Oneida, Ltd., Oneida, NY (OL)
- American Fork and Hoe Company, Evansville, IN (AFH)

This model is identical to the M-1905 except they were all parkerized and were not as well finished. They had black or brown plastic grips rather than the wood used on the early M-1905 bayonet. They are marked with a year but are not serialized. Replacement grips were made for the M-1905 so you may find individual examples of any combination of dates and grips.

The main issue was whether or not it worked on my M1A; it did. Another issue to address is Kansas law. You did need a permit to carry concealed and you had to be 21 to get the permit. Also, it is unlawful to possess: any device designed, used or intended for use in silencing the report of any firearm; a shotgun with a barrel less than 18 inches in length; or any firearm designed to discharge or capable of discharging automatically more than once by a single function of the trigger. Exempt from this prohibition are: persons engaged in certain law-enforcement related occupations, items rendered user-

viceable, or those items possessed which have been registered properly under the National Firearms Act.

We didn't have any machine guns or automatic weapons. However, for Christmas Grandpa gave me a Surefire suppressor model FA762K with a muzzle break adapter (Surefire's term... correct spelling is brake). He said I had to choose between the suppressor and the bayonet. Mom and Dad gave me a Cold Steel Laredo Bowie which resolved the issue.

Grandpa gave Kurstin a rifle like mine, completely equipped including the same Mk 4 scope, Burris red dot sight, Harris bipod and the FA762K suppressor. He gave her a case of M118LR, 175-grain 7.62x51mm NATO Hollow Point Boat Tail rounds specifically designed for long-range sniping. Mom and Dad gave Kurstin a check in the amount they spent on my knife. I thought that was cold and later said so.

"Would you have preferred we buy her a knife like yours?"

"Like I said, it just seemed cold to me."

"Get over it. Kurstin already has plans for the money. She's going to buy the same knife in SK-5 high carbon steel and spend the rest on baby clothes."

"Oh. Baby clothes?"

"Oops."

"Is there something you wanted to tell me?"

"I'm pregnant?"

"Are you asking or telling?"

"Which is the appropriate response to the question? Yes I'm pregnant and yes I was waiting to tell you until Doc verified that I am, in fact, pregnant."

"Pretty slick how you got out of that one. Did you tell my Mom?"

"I haven't told anybody; not even My Mom!"

"My Mom seemed to know."

"Hmm, she did give me a funny look now that you mention it."

"You'd better tell your Mom before My Mom tells her."

“She’s still mad we eloped.”

“We eloped in August.”

“She has the strange ability to stay mad for a very long time. Maybe she’ll get over it when I tell her.”

“I wouldn’t count on it, we’re only 18 and you’re still her Baby.”

“I’ll be 19 in 2 weeks.”

“And, you’ll still be her baby after we have our own baby.”

“You think?”

“I know.”

I could remember the look on his face in that Florida classroom when he first learned of the World Trade Center. To me it was a cross between disbelief and agony. The attacks were denounced by mass media and governments worldwide. Across the globe, nations offered pro-American support and solidarity. Leaders in most Middle Eastern countries, and Afghanistan, condemned the attacks. Iraq was a notable exception, with an immediate official statement that, "the American cowboys are reaping the fruit of their crimes against humanity".

United Nations Security Council Resolution 1368 condemned the attacks, and expressed readiness to take all necessary steps to respond and combat all forms of terrorism in accordance with their Charter. Numerous countries introduced anti-terrorism legislation and froze bank accounts they suspected of al-Qaeda ties. Law enforcement and intelligence agencies in a number of countries arrested alleged terrorists.

Tens of thousands of people attempted to flee Afghanistan following the attacks, fearing a response by the United States. Pakistan, already home to many refugees from previous conflicts, closed its border with Afghanistan on September 17, 2001. Approximately one month after the attacks, the United States led a broad coalition of international forces to overthrow the Taliban regime from Afghanistan for their harboring of al-Qaeda. Though Pakistani authorities were initially reluctant to align themselves with the United States against the Taliban, they permitted the coalition access to their military bases, and arrested and handed over to the US over 600 suspected al-Qaeda members. The spelling varied between al-Qaeda and al-Qaida.

The US set up the Guantanamo Bay detention camp to hold inmates they defined as *illegal enemy combatants*. The legitimacy of these detentions has been questioned by the European Union and human rights organizations.

So the President sent troops to Afghanistan on October 7, 2001. The armed forces of the United States, the United Kingdom, the Commonwealth of Australia, and the Afghan United Front (Northern Alliance) launched Operation Enduring Freedom. The stated aim of the invasion was to find Osama bin Laden and other high-ranking al-Qaeda members to be put on trial, to destroy the organization of al-Qaeda, and to remove the Taliban regime which supported and gave safe harbor to it. George W. Bush administration stated that, as policy, it would not distinguish between terrorist organizations and nations or governments that harbored them.

At the time, most of us didn't realize just how expensive a war could be. Because of that, few of us considered the long term effect on the US economy. On October 7, 2001 our crop of hard red winter wheat was in the ground sprouting. And, looking back, it was about then that Kurstin got pregnant.

Wheat farming is a lot of waiting and worrying. After the wheat seed is drilled, you wait for it to sprout. Sometime after it sprouts winter arrives and the plants go dormant. As it warms in the spring, the plants begin to grow again and then you are waiting for it to get ripe, but not too ripe. The perfect stage for harvest is when the grain is dry but not too dry. Dry enough to not clog the combine, but not so dry the kernels fall to the ground from the head.

Around here, we haul the harvested wheat to the elevator for storage until the crop is sold. It's an extremely busy time. As the field is harvested the next step begins, preparing the soil for next year. We have the soil tested and incorporate the nutrients needed to create a perfect growing environment. The soil is turned, disked and dragged to create a level planting bed. Finally the seed is drilled and the cycle begins anew.

That's why we have a pasture. Although small, our pasture allows our small herd to get some fresh air. The horses, cattle and hogs don't spend their entire lives in the barn. We had more horses than any other kind of livestock. Two were mine, a stallion and a mare and the mare was with foal.

We kept one cow for milk and her offspring. When our cow started to produce insufficient milk to drink and make cheese, she went to the locker plant with her grown offspring and we got a lot of extra ground beef. We had 2 sows to produce marketable pork. They're like 4 leg garbage disposals. Finally, we had chickens during warm weather and collected the eggs for our own use and froze the extra in packages of raw scrambled eggs. We beat the eggs just until blended and poured them into freezer containers. We sealed the containers tightly, labeled the container with the number of eggs and the date and froze them. It's not rocket science.

We didn't produce grain other than wheat and grew no hay. Some of the wheat money bought what we didn't produce. That was alfalfa hay and COB. The horses needed COB (cracked corn and barley plus oats) and the others relished it. We used a COB mix of 45% crimped oats, 30% cracked barley and 25% cracked corn. We had a supplement

incorporated to make the mix more palatable and supply some missing minerals and vitamins.

We had just finished up drilling the 2002 wheat crop when I got a call on the CB. Kurstin was in labor and I needed to finish up, get cleaned up and head into Liberal.

“Calm down Jack, these things take time. You go in and get a shower, put on clean clothes and have a bite to eat at the main house. Your Mom has a pot of goulash simmering and baked bread today. I’ll join you when I have the equipment put up. How do they say that now? Oh, chill out, everything will be ok.”

“Ok Grandpa.”

Chill out - become quiet or calm, especially after a state of agitation; *It took a long time before delivery began and I was anxious; It took a while after the baby was born for things to settle down again.* As usual, Grandpa was about 10 years out of date.

I had been so convinced we’d have a boy; I wouldn’t discuss a girl’s name. Kurstin had one ready, Tabitha Marie. She even had a backup, Sandra Dee. She had twins and we used both. We had one bassinet, one changing table, one playpen and one crib. The third bedroom had a twin bed, a chest of drawers, a lamp table with lamp and a desk.

Grandpa picked me up after checking out his great-granddaughters and we stopped by the furniture store on the way home. We left with a second twin bed, chest, lamp table with lamp and desk. We stopped at a baby store and got a bassinet and crib. He was chuckling the entire time.

“Jack, I don’t hold with doing an ultrasound unless it’s medically necessary. She didn’t tell you the Doc detected 2 heartbeats?”

“Well, that must have been the other thing she wanted to talk about when we began discussing names.”

“Boy, you’ve got to get over being so bullheaded. I sometimes wonder where you got it from. Then, I remember the Harry Chapin song, *Cat’s in the Cradle* and I just know. The lyric says: *And as I hung up the phone it occurred to me he’d grown up just like me my boy was just like me.*”

“Who is Harry Chapin?”

“Who was Harry Chapin, he’s a dead singer. Harry Forster Chapin, December 7, 1942 – July 16, 1981, was an American singer-songwriter best known in particular for his folk rock songs including *Taxi*, *W*O*L*D*, and the number-one hit *Cat’s in the Cradle*. Chapin was also a dedicated humanitarian who fought to end world hunger; he was a key player in the creation of the Presidential Commission on World Hunger in 1977. In 1987,

Chapin was posthumously awarded the Congressional Gold Medal for his humanitarian work.

“It’s strange but the epitaph on his gravestone that came from his song *I Wonder What Would Happen to this World* is:

*Oh if a man tried
To take his time on Earth
And prove before he died
What one man's life could be worth
I wonder what would happen
to this world.”*

“You were a fan?”

“Mostly. You have some work ahead of you tonight getting everything set up. Kurstin is coming home tomorrow and you wouldn’t want her to come home to a mess or clutter. Your Mom will be cooking a little extra for the next few days to help take a load off.”

The Bush administration began actively pressing for military intervention in Iraq in late 2001. The primary rationalization for the Iraq War was articulated by a joint resolution of the US Congress known as the Iraq Resolution.

The US stated that the intent was to remove *a regime that developed and used weapons of mass destruction, that harbored and supported terrorists, committed outrageous human rights abuses, and defied the just demands of the United Nations and the world.* Additional reasons have been suggested: *to change the Middle East so as to deny support for militant Islam by pressuring or transforming the nations and transnational systems that support it.* For the invasion of Iraq the rationale was *the United States relied on the authority of UN Security Council Resolutions 678 and 687 to use all necessary means to compel Iraq to comply with its international obligations.*

In the lead-up to the invasion, the US and UK emphasized the argument that Saddam Hussein was developing *weapons of mass destruction* and thus presented a threat to his neighbors, to the US, and to the world community. The US stated *on November 8, 2002, the UN Security Council unanimously adopted Resolution 1441. All fifteen members of the Security Council agreed to give Iraq a final opportunity to comply with its obligations and disarm or face the serious consequences of failing to disarm. The resolution strengthened the mandate of the UN Monitoring and Verification Commission (UN-MOVIC) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), giving them authority to go anywhere, at any time and talk to anyone in order to verify Iraq’s disarmament.*

Throughout late 2001, 2002, and early 2003, the Bush Administration worked to build a case for invading Iraq, culminating in then Secretary of State Colin Powell's February 2003 address to the Security Council. Shortly after the invasion, the Central Intelligence

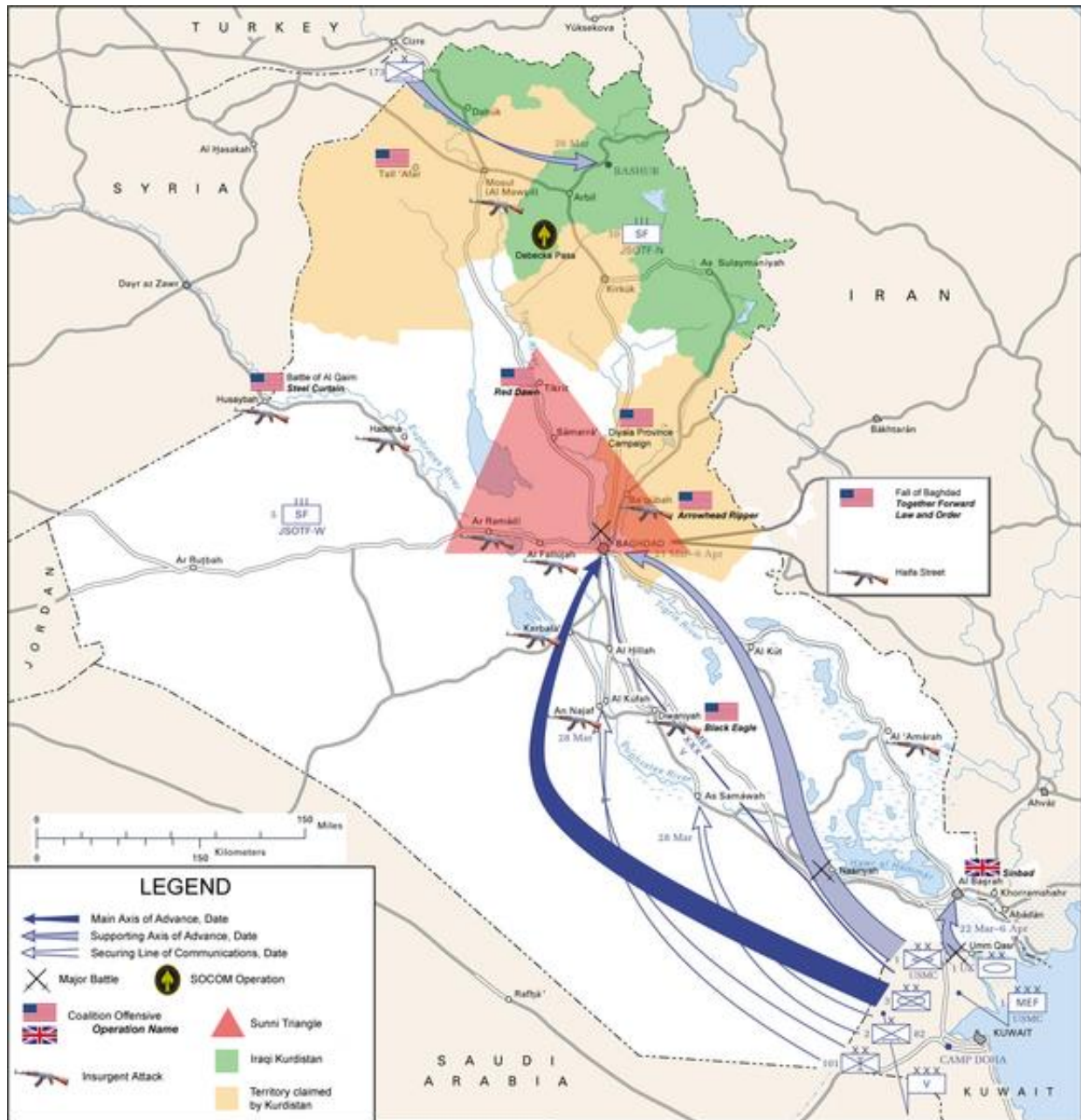
Agency, Defense Intelligence Agency, and other intelligence agencies largely discredited evidence related to Iraqi weapons and, as well as links to al-Qaeda, and at this point the Bush and Blair Administrations began to shift to secondary rationales for the war, such as the Hussein government's human rights record and promoting democracy in Iraq. Opinion polls showed that the population of nearly all countries opposed a war without UN mandate, and that the view of the United States as a danger to world peace had significantly increased. UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan described the war as illegal, saying in a September 2004 interview that it was *not in conformity with the Security Council*.

The CIA's Special Activities Division (SAD) teams were the first US forces to enter Iraq in July 2002, prior to the US Invasion. Once on the ground, they prepared for the subsequent arrival of US Army Special Forces to organize the Kurdish Peshmerga. This joint team combined to defeat Ansar al-Islam, an ally of Al Qaeda, in the North East corner of Iraq. This battle was for control of a territory that was occupied by Ansar al-Islam and was executed prior to the invasion. It was carried out by Paramilitary Operations Officers from SAD and the Army's 10th Special Forces Group. This battle was a significant defeat of a key terrorist organization and the uncovering of a chemical weapons facility at Sargat. Sargat was the only facility of its type discovered in the Iraq war.

SAD teams also conducted missions behind enemy lines to identify leadership targets. These missions led to the initial strikes against Saddam Hussein and his Generals. Although the strike against Saddam was unsuccessful in killing him, it was successful in effectively ending his ability to command and control his forces. Other strikes against his Generals were successful and significantly degraded the command's ability to react to, and maneuver against the US led invasion force. SAD operations officers were also successful in convincing key Iraqi Army officers into surrendering their units once the fighting started.

Turkey refused to allow the US Army entry into Northern Iraq. Therefore, joint SAD and Army Special forces teams and the Kurdish Peshmerga were the entire Northern force against Saddam. They managed to keep Saddam's Army in place rather than moving the northern army to contest the US led coalition force coming from the south. The efforts of the Kurds, SAD and 10th Special Forces Group with the Kurds likely saved the lives of many US and coalition forces during and after the invasion.

Back home in Kansas we watched the war with some trepidation.



On May 1, 2003, President Bush staged a dramatic visit to the aircraft carrier Abraham Lincoln operating a few miles west of San Diego, California. The visit climaxed at sunset with Bush's now well-known *Mission Accomplished* speech. In this nationally televised speech, delivered before the sailors and airmen on the flight deck, Bush effectively declared victory due to the defeat of Iraq's conventional forces. However, Saddam remained at large and significant pockets of resistance remained.

After President Bush's speech, coalition forces noticed a gradually increasing flurry of attacks on its troops in various regions, especially in the *Sunni Triangle*. The initial Iraqi

insurgents were supplied by hundreds of weapons caches created before the invasion by the Iraqi Army and Republican Guard.

We didn't escape uninjured:



That's what was left of an Abram's tank.

The next significant event was the killing of Saddam's sons, Uday and Qusay on 22 July 2003. Troops of the American 65th Military Police, aided by US Special Forces, killed Qusay, his older brother Uday and his 14-year-old son Mustapha, during a raid on a home in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul.

In April 2003, Saddam's whereabouts remained in question during the weeks following the fall of Baghdad and the conclusion of the major fighting of the war. Various sightings of Saddam were reported in the weeks following the war, but none was authenticated.

At various times Saddam released audio tapes promoting popular resistance to his ousting. On 13 December 2003, Saddam Hussein was captured by US forces at a farmhouse in ad-Dawr near Tikrit in a hole in *Operation Red Dawn*. Following his capture on 13 December Saddam was transported to a US base near Tikrit, and later taken to the US base near Baghdad. The day after his capture he was reportedly visited by longtime opponents such as Ahmed Chalabi.

After they caught Saddam the war in Iraq became boring for those of us at home. It was the same with the war in Afghanistan, they couldn't find bin Laden. Do you suppose they were looking in the wrong place?

You've got to be Kidding Me – Chapter 3

Nine months after the girls were born, Kurstin was pregnant a second time. This time around she told me when she suspected she was pregnant rather than waiting. Near the end of her first term she announced that there was one heartbeat, not two. We probably would have used disposable diapers had not Mom given us 12 dozen cotton diapers, 2 diaper pails, plenty of pins and a large supply of Dreft.

First produced by Procter & Gamble in 1933, Dreft was of the earliest synthetic detergents. Since the 1950s, Dreft has been targeted at washing linens for the baby. The slogan for Dreft is *For a Clean You Can Trust* and it is generally marketed to mothers of newborns. I didn't realize that Dreft was a lousy detergent that was sold because of its failings. I did learn to hold my breath for a long time though...

The mare foaled a colt or gelding to be. If a horse is not to be used for breeding, it can be gelded prior to reaching sexual maturity. A horse gelded young may grow taller. A horse may be gelded at any age; however, if an owner knows that he or she intends to geld a particular foal, it is now considered best to geld the horse prior to becoming a yearling. The stallion had a mind of his own and it wasn't too long before the mare was with foal again.

We were averaging two litters of 12 pigs twice a year and always had pork in the freezer. Once in a while Grandpa would tell Dad to have an extra pig or two butchered for the hams, bacon and back ribs. The balance of the meat was turned into sausage. The locker plant charged extra if we wanted the hides but I wanted some pigskin gloves. I read up on tanning and decided to just buy the finished gloves.

Our 3rd child was a boy and we named him Jack Daniel Thompson. I tasted it once and it was pretty good stuff. My middle name was Orrin and I was named after some Senator from Utah. We're Baptists from the heart of the Bible belt. The Methodists edge us out by about ½ percent.

Aside from the obvious differences, I thought a baby was a baby. And then, I learned what the differences were when I was presented with the fountain of youth. Kurstin and I had a long, serious discussion about children. We agreed to slow the pace, 3 infants spaced 18 months apart were a heavy load and she was worn out. Doc recommended the Depo-Provera injection, a shot taken quarterly. He said that in many cases a side effect was the absence of periods. Whoopee!

Eventually, with the passing seasons, our children matured and Grandpa started to fail. By now Mom and Dad owned the section free and clear. Grandpa had a bug up his hind end, probably from following the news. He got me to help him stake out an area to the side of the house. Next, he brought in an excavation contractor and dug a monster hole.

“Swimming pool Grandpa?”

“If you want to go swimming use the pool in Liberal. No sir, I don’t like all this business about North Korea exploding a nuke and Iran trying to get one. Mark my words, one of these days we’re going to have another Cuban Missile Crisis and it won’t end like the last one. That’s where the new shelter goes.”

“But Grandpa, we have the tornado shelter.”

“Which is all fine and good if we get a tornado warning. It’s small, damp and not intended for long term occupancy. This one will be for long term occupation, just in case. Just in case nothing, it’s when, not if.”

There’s no use arguing with Grandpa when he has his mind made up. He must have been reading stories on the forums, he built a reinforced concrete shelter 30 x 50, with an extension to a generator room plus an emergency exit using 30” concrete pipe.

Our implements use diesel fuel and we had a 500-gallon stand tank of diesel and a 300-gallon stand tank of gas. We used propane for heat and had a 1,100-gallon tank behind the house. Part of his deal was to change that, adding a 40kw diesel generator with an Automatic Transfer Switch. We probably wouldn’t be using the 5kw portable any more.

A structural engineer from Liberal worked with an architect and generated the plans to Grandpa’s specifications. The first step was to add tanks below the floor level and run various lines to water, septic, electric and phone. A 5th pipe was installed at a level about 48” above the floor level.

Next, the concrete contractor formed up a rectangular tunnel from the new shelter to the basement wall and cast a reinforced concrete tunnel. The basement walls were limestone and blocks were removed or cut to open a passageway for a door way. The concrete tunnel was flush with the inside walls of the basement and any open gaps were filled with concrete. Several large packages had arrived from Oregon and one contained a door.

We got busy harvesting and I missed some of what happened next. Grandpa was right there sitting in a lawn chair with a pitcher of homemade lemonade, *supervising*. We had to impose on Kurstin to haul the wheat from the field and on Mom to watch the kids. We should have hired the harvest out. Fortunately, Grandpa rented 2 tilt-bed grain trucks for this season. Dad and Kurstin hauled the wheat from the combine to the elevator and I kept on combining.

With the crop in, I had free time in the evening to watch Grandpa’s project come together. The excavation contractor came out again and dug a second hole. This hole was about 18’ deep, 75’ long and 18’ wide at the bottom. It tapered out from the bottom to the top. The next night when I looked, there was a huge fiberglass tank in the hole resting on some kind of gravel or pea stone.

“How big is that tank?”

“Ten foot in diameter and a smidgen over 70’ long.”

“I could tell that Grandpa. What I was asking was how much does it hold?”

“Oh, I misunderstood. It holds 40,000 gallons.”

“Do you realize how much it’s going to cost to fill it?”

“Yep, about \$37,500.”

“No way!”

“I’m going to fill it with biodiesel.”

“Oh, I figured #2 diesel fuel.”

“That would break my piggy bank. Did you get those shotguns bought yet?”

“The 870s? Not yet.”

“I’ll get shotguns for the 2 of you for Christmas so don’t buy them. You might consider a handgun. Personally, I favor the M1911A1.”

“It’s going to be awhile.”

“Nonsense, Kurstin’s birthday isn’t that far beyond Christmas. Maybe I can get a volume discount.”

“Why are you doing all these things Grandpa?”

“Well, I don’t like what I read in the news for one thing. I won’t live forever and can’t take it with me. So, if I spend it now, I get some say in what happens to what I’ve accumulated over my lifetime. Don’t worry about it Jack, I have something set aside for Kurstin, you and your kids. Did you decide to stop at three?”

“I think so Grandpa. Kurstin takes a shot 4 times a year for birth control.”

“Is it 100%?”

“As far as I know, it is.”

“You know Jack, for as long as humans have been around there’s been a war somewhere on the planet. I think the next one might be Armageddon. Too many countries have nukes in this day and age. Sooner or later some petty dictator or crackpot is going

to use his nukes. That's why I'm doing what I'm doing. I'm giving your parents and you kids a chance at survival.

"That's all I can do, you know, is to give you the chance. Now whether or not you all survive is strictly up to you. You'll have the means including air, shelter, water, food and protection. I wish I could guarantee you that with these things you will survive, but I can't. That will be between God and you."

The next evening, the tank had been plumed in and covered over. The ground had been compacted, presumably using a sheepsfoot. Forms were in place to pour concrete above the entire tank and the pipes sticking up and capped that I presumed were from the tank. There was a large box holding a fuel dispenser (gas pump). The next night the slab was poured and covered.

The shelter had been sealed up, tarred on the outside and covered over. Kurstin and I had supper with the folks and after supper, Grandpa gave us the grand tour. It wasn't what I expected, more had been accomplished than I realized. The walls were white due to two coats of sealer. The generator had been set in place before the roof went on. A 25ft³ chest freezer was also in there along with a pile of lumber, drywall, plumbing fixtures and a kitchenette. It was an Acme 72" ROG.

There were wall cabinets complementing the base unit. There were also wall shields on the rear wall matching the countertop. An under cabinet, slim line fluorescent light fixture lit the countertop. The sink was covered with a cutting board which could be stored when not in use.

The microwave oven/hood combination was 30" wide, had a 1.7ft³ capacity, 1000 watts and featured electronic touch controls, clock timer and 10 power levels. It included a 300 CFM two speed high-capacity exhaust fan. The air was drawn from the stove, passed through 2 filters and exhausted into the room. A cabinet replaced the refrigerator and a full size refrigerator with icemaker stood next to the kitchenette.

There was a blast door mounted on the basement end of the tunnel and a second on the shelter end of the tunnel. Both opened towards the basement. The kids were getting cranky and we cut the tour short. We'd try to complete it the next night.

With Mom and Dad watching the kids, we completed the tour the next night. There wasn't any moss growing on Grandpa's stone. The walls were up, insulated, dry walled and taped. The doors were also in place. There were 4 bed/bunk rooms. The 2 rooms at opposite ends would contain a queen sized bed, dresser and lamp table. The 2 bunk-rooms would each contain 3 military surplus bunks, 6 footlockers and 6 wall lockers. The storage room was empty except for some shelving waiting to be assembled and a huge gun safe.

The door to the generator room opened to a short hallway that was lined with sound absorbing tile. Both sides of the door into the generator room were also covered with the

same tile as was the tunnel side of the shelter door to the tunnel. There was the generator in the center of the room and 2 sets of shelves. One held repair parts and some filters. The other contained only filters. There were several drums of Castrol 15w-40 oil plus an empty drum for dirty oil and a galvanized funnel in the 2" bung hole.

The following Thursday, a local cartage truck showed up and everything it contained was unloaded and hauled to the shelter. It turned out to be Grandpa's order from Emergency Essentials. The next day another order showed up by hot-shot freight from Idaho. It contained 6-gallon pails and lots of boxes. The pails were heavy and left sitting where they'd been unloaded. Guess who got to take them to the shelter. Actually, they ran from 25 to 50 pounds, each.

Between Emergency Essential and Walton Feed, the storeroom shelves were full and we had shelves leftover. The section, to the right of the door had the shelves holding the boxes of cans and the balance of that section held the pails from Walton and Emergency Essentials. To the left of the door were shelves that seemed to fill up a little more each day with cases of ammo. I think Grandpa had been reading PAW fiction again.

For example, Tired Old Man ends up with thousands of rounds of ammo, but rarely gets into a gun battle. Plus, given his choice of weapons he doesn't have to allow the enemy to get within average rifle range. As we were soon to discover, that was exactly who wrote the stories Grandpa had been reading.

For Christmas he gave us each a Mossberg 590A1 shotgun with the new OKC-3S bayonet. We already had good fighting knives in the Laredo Bowies. And for Kurstin's birthday, we both got 1911s. They were PT1911s, the new Taurus product, with 5 extra magazines giving us a total of 7 each. The next day, he took us to the shelter and opened the gun safe.

"I heard Winchester is folding up. If they go, how long before Marlin and some of the others are gone? With that in mind, I did some extra shopping with that package deal so listen up. I bought 5 9422s, 4 in .22LR and 1 in .22WRM. I also bought 5 24" 94 Legacy models in .45 Colt plus 5 Marlin 1895 Cowboys in .45-70. There are shotguns, pistols and Loaded model M1As for the kids for when they grow up.

"Colts are \$1,500 these days so I bought reproductions from Cimarron Firearms. They're the same guns as the Beretta Stampedes. I got you 3½", 4¾", 5½" and 7½". You have to buy the leather. Finally, I brought scabbards for the rifles and your shotguns. I don't see any reason why you can't reload your shotgun shells with black powder if push comes to shove. I've got to sit down, lock up the safe."

"Are you alright Grandpa?"

"No, I'm not alright. The combination to the safe is on this paper and it's also on the factory paper in my file box. Kurstin, go tell John to call 911."

“What’s wrong Grandpa?”

“The oxycontin isn’t cutting it; I think I need morphine for the pain. Jack, I have late stage pancreatic cancer. That’s why I put such a push on getting everything wrapped up. I suspected it before I started the project and that’s WHY I started the project. After it was well along, I saw Doc and he confirmed it. At that point, it was late stage 2. If you ever get pancreatitis, you’ll know what it is. The most common symptoms of pancreatitis are severe upper abdominal pain radiating to the back, nausea, and vomiting that is worsened with eating.”

“You should have taken better care of your health and not worried about us.”

“If I’d gone that way, even extracting a promise to do what I’ve done, it would have never happened. The survival rate for this kind of cancer is extremely low. Now listen here, there’s one more thing I have to tell you. Back around the time of the 9/11 attacks, gold and silver prices were way down. I loaded up with all I could afford. My average investment in the various denominations of gold Eagles is \$325 an ounce. They charge extra for the small denomination coins.

“I bought 100 ounces of gold Eagles and 1,000 ounces of silver Eagles. On top of that, I have \$1,000 face value in junk silver... you know, the old 90% silver coins. They’ll run 715 to 722 ounces per thousand depending on condition. For sure they’ll go 715 ounces. The coins are for Kurstin and you to raise my great grandchildren and keep them safe when the crap hits the fan.”

That was about all he had to say, he passed out from the pain. I stayed with him until the ambulance arrived. Unfortunately the EMTs got a good look at the shelter. Grandpa didn’t say where his precious metals were and if he didn’t make it, we’d end up treasure hunting. There was a lot of wishing and a hoping that night at Thompson households.

They only kept Grandpa 2 days and sent him home with morphine. He said the side effects were something else. The constipation was one of the worst of the side effects. Not only did he plug up, but the plug was hard, and held shape, causing pain that the morphine itself didn’t reduce, and even tearing the flesh in severe cases. Moderate cases were one thing; some cases could be life threatening if very severe and persistent.

Doc sent instructions about what to watch for. There was often dizziness, drowsiness, headache, lightheadedness, nausea, restless mood, sweating, and vomiting. And these were the minor side effects that could occur. See him immediately if any of the above were severe and or persistent. The same goes if allergic reactions occur. (rash; hives; itching; difficulty breathing; tightness in the chest; swelling of the mouth, face, lips, throat, or tongue).

Also needing immediate attention by Doc were the following severe symptoms: confusion; disorientation; fainting; fast, slow, or irregular heartbeat; hallucinations; mental or mood changes (e.g., agitation, exaggerated sense of well-being); vision changes (e.g.,

blurred vision); seizures; severe stomach pain; shortness of breath; slow or shallow breathing; sudden chest pain; swelling of the hands, ankles, or feet; trouble urinating; unusual bruising or bleeding; unusual tiredness or weakness.

And then, if you survive the initial debilitation and no longer need the morphine, you will have severe withdrawal symptoms, unless a slow, monitored, step process is used to get off the drug. A wonder drug, no doubt, but with its own set of problems.

The effects of opiates are well known to drug counselors or rather their after effects when the opiates were removed, diarrhea. The body produced extra moisture to compensate for the drying effect of opiates and continued to do so when the opiates were discontinued.

He also told us where to find the precious metals, in the gun safe. They were in those canvas bags and the two boxes. (Each box held 500 silver Eagles in their original Mint package. The boxes weighed about 40-41 pounds each.)

It seemed like Grandpa no more than made it home than he was back in the hospital again. Mom and Dad drove him in. Later, after they came home, Kurstin and I went to see him. Doc had him on an epidural and he still had some pain. He could only talk between grunts. His final legacy was a pair of ring binders containing information the family might need, when *whatever* happened.

Grandpa died one night in the hospital. His funeral was prearranged and medical expenses covered by one of those cancer insurance policies. There was no joy in Mudville that night... mighty Casey had struck out. Later, there were recriminations because Grandpa told me before he told Mom and Dad. They immediately adopted Grandpa's plan of gifting us the farm based on current land values and the IRS limit.

Tabitha and Sandra were getting of the age to learn to ride; if not this year, next year for sure. If we waited a year. we would add Jack and teach all three at once. We decided to wait. That would ensure the young geldings were well trained.

"You're getting quite the herd of horses Jack. I'd suggest you buy another stallion to improve the blood lines. There's a horse breeder with a proven Morgan available for a reasonable price. Your American Saddlebred's have some Morgan blood in their heritage and a bit more couldn't hurt."

"Do you know how much he wants?"

"Finances tight? Tell you what, I can buy him and you can pay me back."

"No Dad, we have the money. Grandpa had 3 insurance policies, not 2. The cancer policy paid for his medical expenses and his funeral was prepaid. Apparently he bought a policy on himself when I was born, payable to me or my beneficiaries. And he changed the beneficiary on his big policy from Grandma to you when she died."

"I hung onto most of that money Jack. It was set aside in case you wanted to go to college."

"I can tell you what Grandpa would say if he was here at the moment... buy gold and silver. You've seen the ads on TV. Dann Florek who was on *Law and Order* does those ads for Discover Brokerage. He points out that gold has never been worth nothing. Grandpa left us some gold and silver to take care of his great grandchildren."

"That's it in the new gun safe?"

"Yes, those 2 boxes each contain 500 silver Eagles. Two of the bags each contain \$500 face value of junk silver and the last bag contains 100 ounces of gold Eagles in the 4 denominations. There are 25 ounces of each denomination."

"Junk silver? How can silver be junk?"

"You really aren't into prepping much, are you?"

"It's foolishness. If it happens, it happens and there's nothing we can do about it."

"It's true that *Duck and Cover* was nothing but foolishness. Some of those old Civil Defense pamphlets weren't intended to prepare the population. I think maybe they were intended to reassure the population. I have a copy of SURVIVAL UNDER ATOMIC ATTACK THE OFFICIAL US GOVERNMENT BOOKLET, NSRB Doc. 130. My first reaction was you've got to be kidding me."

"Back to the subject. What about that stallion?"

"Can we go check on him?"

"Get your hat."

The stallion was almost a purebred Morgan; call it 75%. He had the look and confirmation of the breed and the asking price was high, but reasonable in the circumstances. I wrote the check and the breeder said he'd deliver within 3 days. I think he wanted to make sure my check was good. It must have cleared; he delivered the stallion, with tack, the next day.

The tack wasn't really to my taste since it was hand tooled. It included saddlebags, was double-rigged and had a breastcollar. In plain English, it was a roping saddle. It would do because we could remove the back cinch and breast collar. While we're on the subject of leather, Grandpa had said, *you have to buy the leather*.

In the evenings, I searched the web and found Fitzpatrick Leather in Laredo, Texas. Looking through their Hollywood rigs I happened upon the Laredo Crossdraw. I printed out a picture of the rig to show Kurstin.



“What do you think of this rig?”

“It looks expensive.”

“The plain models are less than \$400. We’d need two rigs apiece and I was thinking that perhaps we’d carry the Sheriff’s model crossdraw with 5½” on the strong side. The second rig would carry the 4¾” crossdraw with the 7½” on the strong side.”

“You’re bound and determined to burn through that insurance check, aren’t you? You bought that stallion and now you want to spend \$1,600 on holsters.”

“But Grandpa said... never mind, I’m sorry I brought it up.”

“This is important to you, isn’t it?”

“It is; but not important enough to let it come between us.”

“What do you need to know to order them?”

“I need your jean size and your measurement where you’d wear the gun belt.”

“I wear Wrangles medium sized proportioned fit natural rise jeans. They fit my waist just fine, but are loose in the hips. I’ll probably wear the gun belt about 1 inch below my pants belt. My everyday shirts are men’s blue work shirts and riding shirts are Wrangles long sleeve white solid shirts, size medium. I’ll get the tape measure and you can measure where I’ll probably wear them.”

Medium sized natural rise jeans translated into a waist size of 28½” to 30”. The tape yielded a measurement of 34½”. I had a 34” waist and the tape yielded a measurement 35”. I called Kirkpatrick and placed the order. It came to \$1,500 plus shipping. It also mostly finished my spending spree.

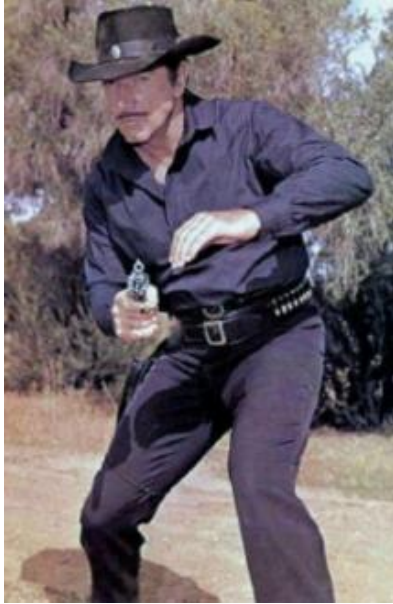
We tried to buy cowboy loads for practice rounds and I finally just ordered a full case of 500 rounds. The leftover insurance money was safely tucked away for the moment in a CD. Full power loads were available if we wanted to order them. I didn’t because I didn’t want Kurstin on my case.

It finally came time to teach Tabitha, Sandra and Jack to ride. We had 3 geldings trained that were old enough for the kids to ride. The tack was made of leather just like the holsters but *that was different*. We got the horses saddled and helped the kids up into their saddles. And then, we mounted up and rode the fence line. We stuck our 94s in the scabbards for the fun of it and strapped on our *hoglegs*.

Dad bought 9422s in .22LR and 94 Legacy models in .45 Colt. He chose to be Paladin.



Their guns weren’t like the one in the picture. They were Cimarron Firearms 7½” Pre-War models while ours were the Old models. The Old models were manufactured up to



1890 and the Pre-War models after that. In both cases, the handguns had the case hardened finish.

Their holsters came from Alfonsos from Hollywood. He got almost as much for their single rigs as we did for both of our double rigs, \$725 versus \$750. I think Dad must have been jealous of our Colt clones and Winchesters because he went shopping for himself and Mom. It was funny to see Dad dressed all in black. He didn't look anything like Richard Boone, the actor that played Paladin in the TV show.

Paladin's calling card looked like this:



I'm not even sure Dad had the right hat or hatband. Paladin's horse didn't have a name and Dad's was named Scout. No, it didn't look anything like Tonto's horse or even the Lone Ranger's. It was just an ordinary looking bay.

"Daddy, when do we get to carry guns like you are?"

"You can when you're old enough to handle them son. Just so you know your Great Grandpa bought you a set of rifles and revolvers just like what we have. Mom and I will let the 3 of you know when it's time to learn to shoot your rifles. The handguns will have to wait because they're too powerful for someone your age."

"Aww..."

"That's enough Jack."

The four mile trip around the section proved to be enough for the kids on this particular day. We'd take them riding as time permitted and they could go it alone when they could saddle their own horses. Dad dug out the stairs I'd used when I was young to get in the saddle. It would still be 3 plus years before the kids had the strength to carry the saddle to their horse.

Their saddles were trail saddles; designed for maximum comfort of rider as well as a good fit for the horse and featured deep, padded seats, designed for long rides at slower speeds. While they were not as heavy as a double rigged roping saddle, they weren't light weight endurance saddles.

The kids rode the bus to school. They were the 2nd pick up on the route and left early. That also meant they were the 2nd drop off, arriving home in plenty of time to get their homework done before supper. Our supper time was 6pm and Kurstin enforced it. The food was ready on time and if you showed up late, you ate it cold or nuked it.

You've got to be Kidding Me – Chapter 4

That covers the time between High School and the present where I began this journal. I left out a few things and will add them when they come to me. For example, North Korea exploded their 1st nuke a few years back and it was mostly a dud. Three years later they tested a 2nd and it was about 1/3 of our Trinity test. The word is they're going to test a 3rd weapon soon. Their rocket test was a failure; it broke up within 1 minute of launch.

That should tell you the time frame, spring of 2012. Iran apparently hasn't managed a nuke, yet. That crackpot Ahmadinejad insists they aren't trying. He must own a brown cow and drink chocolate milk. Osama moved F-22s to the region for a readiness exercise. No mention was made of the B1Bs or the B2s. Speaking of the B1B, the platform was originally a nuclear delivery platform. Could they be converted back? Were they converted back?

We have large inventory of weapons between our active weapons and our enduring stockpile. None have extremely high yields with the largest rated at 1.2Mt. The nukes are a double edged sword. They'll get the job done. That will open a can of worms no one wants to contemplate.

Due to wheat storages, some of the most recent years have been highly profitable. It allowed Kurstin and me to buy a portion of the farm, much as Dad and Mom had from Grandpa. Everyone has a special person or hero growing up. Grandpa was mine. Dad told us to put Grandpa's firearms in the gun safe in the shelter and the ammo in the storeroom.

Grandpa had 20 crates of 8 round enbloc clips for the Garand (192 rounds per crate) and extra 7 round magazines for the M1911A1. Beyond his assortment of 2 3/4", he had 3" slugs, 00 and #4 buckshot. The slugs were a brand I'd never heard of, Brenneke, and they were labeled Black Magic 1 3/8oz. The 3" 00 buck contained 15 pellets and the #4 buck 41 pellets. They weren't for hunting unless you were hunting bear.

Mom asked me about the rifles Grandpa had bought us, the M1As. I told her what Grandpa told me and she went shopping on the internet. Next, she called a gun dealer we used in Liberal and placed an order, for Christmas presents. She bought 2 loaded models, scopes, red dot sights, mounts, magazines and 168gr ammo, Federal Match. She also ordered 2 FA762K suppressors but they would take a while because of the ATF.

If Obama were reelected we might not have the firearms long. I suspected he'd introduce the Assault Weapon Ban and all firearms would be considered Assault Weapons. But he had to defeat Mitt Romney to do it and he'd need a Democratic majority in both houses of Congress. Unfortunately, Mitt Romney had a habit of not watching what he said and Obama was leading in the polls, but not by much.

As of 1 November 2012, neither the US or Israel had attacked Iran although the F-22s were still based in the Middle East at the United Arab Emirates' Al Dafra Air Base, just a short hop over the Persian Gulf from Iran's southern border. They had increased the number of both F-15s and F-22s. It's not looking good and the very worst decision Obama could make was to attack or support Israel attacking Iran.

It has been suggested that, if reelected, Obama might declare himself President for life. If he does, his 2nd term is likely to be very short. Almost everyone who votes for Romney is voting against Obama, just because. As much as I dislike Romney, I dislike Obama more. Say, you don't suppose rebasing the American aircraft to the Middle East is a ploy intended to steal conservative votes?

Well... the bad news is that Obama won the election. The only good news that comes to mind is that no one has attacked Iran, yet. Concern over what might happen led Kurstin and me to get Amateur Extra-class licenses. We added CBs and upgraded the business band radios in my pickup and her old Suburban to the 45 watt model. The Suburban had a blown engine that had been replaced with a Cummins 6BT, non-electronic engine.

When Grandpa had the shelter built, he had an 85' crank-up/fold-over radio tower installed and acquired business band radios for all of the tractors, vehicles, the houses and the shelter. He also added a set of beam antennas to the mast topped with a 10-band vertical. Four standoffs were installed. One contained a CB base station antenna, the second a Diamond D-130J Discone and the third a business band base station antenna. There was one multiband Amateur radio in the shelter, a Kenwood TS-2000.

The shelter's CB was a Galaxy DX-2437 and our CBs were 148 GTL AM/Single Side-band CB Radios. Our portables, 5, were HH 38 WX ST Hand Held CB Radio with 10 Weather channels and Sound Tracker. The scanner was a JRC NRD-545 .01 to 2000 MHz; the business band radios could reach to Liberal and beyond.

The kids now have their 9422s in .22LR. I claimed the .22 WRM. We bought 4 Ruger Single Six revolvers in .22LR and I bought a Single Six convertible. Kurstin and I took time to learn to use the amateur radio. We also inventoried the shelter's food supply and combined money with Mom and Dad to double the 5 years supplies for 8 from both Emergency Essentials and Walton Feed. We also bought some of the Empty Super Pails and bagged additional wheat and corn we bought from the elevator.

Kurstin added women's supplies (trade goods?) and started double buying from the grocery stores to have a 1 year supply for 8 of what we usually ate. She also added bath tissue, paper towels, tea, Jasmine rice and Folgers coffee. Mom added navy beans and great northern beans; enough to fill 2 pails of each.

As I said earlier, Liberal, Kansas is on the border with Oklahoma. It is well south of Denver and Colorado Springs which were likely targets in a Global Thermonuclear War

(GTW). According to Grandpa's ring binders, we were unlikely to get much, if any, fall-out. It mostly depended on the wind. While the normal winds are westerly, a front could bring them out of the north or northwest. In that event, the shelter would be absolutely necessary.

Another feature of the shelter was the things that had been done to EMP-proof it. It was reinforced concrete with a difference. The difference was hardware wire tied to the rebar, encapsulating the shelter in a Faraday cage. Despite that, Grandpa had 3 grounded metal cabinets in the shelter. One held communications equipment and the 2nd medications, bandages and equipment.

Grandpa had been on morphine sulfate (ms) and the dispensing directions had been PRN, with limits. He had stockpiled the ms and it was in the cabinet. Each drug he took was also stockpiled including Humalin 70/30, Humalog, Januvia, Diovan, Norvasc, Xanax 0.25mg, Keflex, Cipro, Doxycycline and Amoxicillin plus OTC medications including Prevacid, Aspirin, Tylenol, Benadryl, Guaifenesin (cough syrup) and Cough drops.

There was every size of Band-Aid brand bandage made, the same with gauze pads both regular and non-sticking, triangular bandages, hot packs, cold packs, etc. It was too much to list. What didn't fit in the 2nd cabinet was in the 3rd cabinet and it included a stethoscope, automatic blood pressure cuff, AED, syringes, IV sets, boxes of IV fluids, mainly normal saline and so forth.

In addition to the 10 liter per minute demand flow oxygen concentrator, Grandpa had 10 230ft³ bottles of medical grade oxygen. Each bottle would last about 2 days, depending on delivery rate and method. The two methods were demand flow and continuous.

Back to the binders, the one labeled #1 had a cover page inside. It said:

"If you're reading this before the balloon has gone up, good for you. Read the volumes cover to cover. If you put it off until the very last minute, see the Table of Contents and READ FAST!"

That was followed by a long admonishment:

O Ye of Little Faith

Matthew 4:23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

Matthew 5:1 And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him:

2 And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,

Matthew 6:24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

25 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

26 Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

27 Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?

28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:

29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?

31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

Matthew 8:18 Now when Jesus saw great multitudes about him, he gave commandment to depart unto the other side.

Matthew 8:23 And when he was entered into a ship, his disciples followed him.

24 And, behold, there arose a great tempest in the sea, insomuch that the ship was covered with the waves: but he was asleep.

25 And his disciples came to him, and awoke him, saying, Lord, save us: we perish.

26 And he saith unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm.

Matthew 14:22 And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away.

23 And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.

24 But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary.

25 And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea.

26 And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear.

27 But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.

28 And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water.

29 And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.

30 But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.

31 And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?

32 And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased.

Matthew 16:5 And when his disciples were come to the other side, they had forgotten to take bread.

6 Then Jesus said unto them, Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.

7 And they reasoned among themselves, saying, It is because we have taken no bread.

8 Which when Jesus perceived, he said unto them, O ye of little faith, why reason ye among yourselves, because ye have brought no bread?

9 Do ye not yet understand, neither remember the five loaves of the five thousand, and how many baskets ye took up?

10 Neither the seven loaves of the four thousand, and how many baskets ye took up?

11 How is it that ye do not understand that I spake it not to you concerning bread, that ye should beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees?

12 Then understood they how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.

Matthew 17:14 And when they were come to the multitude, there came to him a certain man, kneeling down to him, and saying,

15 Lord, have mercy on my son: for he is lunatick, and sore vexed: for oftentimes he falleth into the fire, and oft into the water.

16 And I brought him to thy disciples, and they could not cure him.

17 Then Jesus answered and said, O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him hither to me.

18 And Jesus rebuked the devil; and he departed out of him: and the child was cured from that very hour.

19 Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him out?

20 And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.

Mark 4:35 And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, Let us pass over unto the other side.

36 And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships.

37 And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full.

38 And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish?

39 And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.

40 And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?

Mark 9:14 And when he came to his disciples, he saw a great multitude about them, and the scribes questioning with them.

15 And straightway all the people, when they beheld him, were greatly amazed, and running to him saluted him.

16 And he asked the scribes, What question ye with them?

17 And one of the multitude answered and said, Master, I have brought unto thee my son, which hath a dumb spirit;

18 And wheresoever he taketh him, he teareth him: and he foameth, and gnasheth with his teeth, and pineth away: and I spake to thy disciples that they should cast him out; and they could not.

19 He answereth him, and saith, O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him unto me.

20 And they brought him unto him: and when he saw him, straightway the spirit tare him; and he fell on the ground, and wallowed foaming.

21 And he asked his father, How long is it ago since this came unto him? And he said, Of a child.

22 And oftentimes it hath cast him into the fire, and into the waters, to destroy him: but if thou canst do any thing, have compassion on us, and help us.

23 Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.

24 And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.

25 When Jesus saw that the people came running together, he rebuked the foul spirit, saying unto him, Thou dumb and deaf spirit, I charge thee, come out of him, and enter no more into him.

26 And the spirit cried, and rent him sore, and came out of him: and he was as one dead; insomuch that many said, He is dead.

27 But Jesus took him by the hand, and lifted him up; and he arose.

Mark 16:9 Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils.

10 And she went and told them that had been with him, as they mourned and wept.

11 And they, when they had heard that he was alive, and had been seen of her, believed not.

12 After that he appeared in another form unto two of them, as they walked, and went into the country.

13 And they went and told it unto the residue: neither believed they them.

14 Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen.

Luke 8:22 Now it came to pass on a certain day, that he went into a ship with his disciples: and he said unto them, Let us go over unto the other side of the lake. And they launched forth.

23 But as they sailed he fell asleep: and there came down a storm of wind on the lake; and they were filled with water, and were in jeopardy.

24 And they came to him, and awoke him, saying, Master, master, we perish. Then he arose, and rebuked the wind and the raging of the water: and they ceased, and there was a calm.

25 And he said unto them, Where is your faith? And they being afraid wondered, saying one to another, What manner of man is this! for he commandeth even the winds and water, and they obey him.

Luke 9:37 And it came to pass, that on the next day, when they were come down from the hill, much people met him.

38 And, behold, a man of the company cried out, saying, Master, I beseech thee, look upon my son: for he is mine only child.

39 And, lo, a spirit taketh him, and he suddenly crieth out; and it teareth him that he foameth again, and bruising him hardly departeth from him.

40 And I besought thy disciples to cast him out; and they could not.

41 And Jesus answering said, O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you, and suffer you? Bring thy son hither.

42 And as he was yet a coming, the devil threw him down, and tare him. And Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, and healed the child, and delivered him again to his father.

Luke 12:22 And he said unto his disciples, Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on.

23 The life is more than meat, and the body is more than raiment.

24 Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feedeth them: how much more are ye better than the fowls?

25 And which of you with taking thought can add to his stature one cubit?

26 If ye then be not able to do that thing which is least, why take ye thought for the rest?

27 Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

28 If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe you, O ye of little faith?

29 And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind.

30 For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things.

31 But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you.

John 20:19 Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

20 And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord.

John 20:24 But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came.

25 The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.

26 And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you.

27 Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.

28 And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.

29 Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.

I think that Grandpa was trying to tell us to trust in God and have faith in ourselves. He did tell me, *that's all I can do, you know, is to give you the chance. Now whether or not you all survive is strictly up to you. You'll have the means including air, shelter, water, food and protection. I wish I could guarantee you that with these things you will survive, but I can't. That will be between God and you.*

At first it seemed that President Obama was content to not push his agenda. He had his Healthcare and it had been his primary goal. We had withdrawn most of our people from Iraq by December, 2011. I'm sure that helped him get reelected. He did advance the withdrawal from Afghanistan from 2014 to mid-2013. He was up to something and the mainstream media was rampant with speculation.

I believe that the troubled started when they moved the 3rd Nimitz class carrier into the Persian Gulf. We already had the Enterprise (delayed retirement) and the Abraham Lincoln there and they were joined by the Nimitz with the Harry S. Truman standing by in the Gulf of Aden. Each carrier had 2 cruisers, 3 destroyers and 2 frigates attached to the strike group.

There were also 3 Wasp class of Landing Helicopter Dock (LHD) amphibious assault ships accompanying the strike groups. One could add 3 Whidbey Island Class Landing Ship Dock (LSD), 3 Virginia class attack submarines, 6 688I class attack submarines and the SSGN Florida.

The 20 F-15C Eagles from the 104th Fighter Wing had been supplemented by F-15E Strike Eagles from 492d Fighter Squadron and the 494th Fighter Squadron, both based at RAF Lakenheath, England along with the 493rd Fighter Squadron which flew F-15C fighters. The 3 Squadrons made up the 48th Operations Group of the 48th Fighter Wing. It wasn't revealed that the entire Wing had been moved although it should have been

obvious. The other Squadrons were needed to maintain and support the Fighter Squadrons.

DEBKAFfile revealed that additional F-22 Raptors had arrived at Al Dhafra Air Base in the United Arab Emirates. So much for the 2012 activities being an exercise. Maybe Obama thought he could frighten the Iranians into giving up their nuclear program. He might have been able to accomplish it except for 2 reasons. Iran had the support of Russia; and, Ahmadinejad hated Israel more than anything or anyone else in the world. We only came in 2nd.

No one knew what was going on within Iran between Ahmadinejad and the Grand Ayatollah Sayyed Ali Hosseini Khamenei. Supposedly Khamenei was the Supreme Leader and Ahmadinejad was merely the President and subject to Khamenei's orders. Supposedly.

We had our weather radios on, just in case. If I were a betting man, I'd put \$100 on the nose for a GTW. The problem would be collecting the money after I won the bet. Anyone who was likely to bet against it happening wouldn't be prepared and would only survive with extreme luck. And, I wasn't a betting man anyway. What would we do with a handful of FRNs after TSHTF (stuff, not the other).

Although we had about the best military rifles Grandpa's money could buy, we didn't shoot much. We bought the ammo, 5,000 rounds per rifle like Tired Old Man suggested. That was in addition to what ammo Grandpa had started us off with. We also bought Buffalo Bore .45-70-405 magnum loads for the rifles and their .45 Colt loads for both. The latter was Standard Pressure Heavy .45 Colt - 255gr. gas checked soft cast bullet.

Like I told Kurstin, they would always be her babies, regardless of age. But, the Barnes ammo developed ~1053 fps in a 7½" Colt and more in the Winchesters. Mom had gone on another spree and picked up a pair of Cimarron 1892 clones in .45 Colt. She also bought two of the 1878 coach guns but we stuck with our Mossberg's. It worked well in the revolvers and the rifles although we had several 500 round cases of Cowboy loads for the kids. They're still kids, just not little kids.

Our greatest fear was that the balloon would go up on a school day and Kurstin, Mom, Dad or I couldn't get to Liberal and back in time. It wasn't that big of a concern for one reason, her Suburban with its EMP proof (hopefully) engine. Whoever went, he/she and the kids should be on the way home when the HEMP hit. HEMP was often discussed on the forums that we now followed like a religion. "They" would or "they" wouldn't and believe me when I tell you I don't care!

"I think that's it's time to sight in our rifles."

"What's the rush, they're barely teenagers."

"The kids?"

“The firearms. You’ve all but worn the rifling off and we’ve yet to shoot them. I wouldn’t want to rush into anything.”

“Is that sarcasm I detect?”

“You wouldn’t know sarcasm if it bit you on the butt.”

“Definitely sarcasm. Ok, this weekend we’ll resume shooting.”

“You’re going to have to start over with the kids.”

“It’s like riding a bicycle, once you learn, you never forget.”

“We’re getting them bicycles? Be still my heart.”

“You started it, you know. You were so worried when I spent the money on the stallion and \$1,500 on the Kirkpatrick holsters, I was afraid to bring up spending any more of the insurance money.”

“Gold is down, Spend It! How are we on ammo?”

“I’ve been buying it behind your back and we’re at the level TOM recommends above what Grandpa gave us.”

“Did you get Pyrodex and wheel weights?”

“We’re covered. We have extra Hornady bullets, Hodgdon power and CCI primers. I’ve been getting lessons on using the Dillon reloading equipment and all the dies are set up. We even have freshly recertified radiation equipment, gas masks, KIO₃ and the medical supplies have been rotated. I had a talk with Doc about keeping Grandpa’s medications current.”

“In case he comes back to life and needs them?”

“No, in case something happened and Doc or we needed them. Obama has enough Air Force and Navy in the Middle East to make me believe Israel is about to attack Iran.”

“That means Russia will probably nuke the US.”

“Now you get it. Be sure to keep your Suburban’s tank at least $\frac{3}{4}$ full. It will be our best bet if the attack comes while the kids are in school. All the tanks are topped off at the beginning of each month, now. We have 40,000-gallons of biodiesel, 31,000-gallons of propane, 500-gallons of gas and 300-gallons of kerosene.”

“Where is the other propane tank?”

“Next to the biodiesel tank. Oh, you weren’t here when that went in. Our excuse for installing it was the grain dryer.”

“But, we don’t have a grain dryer.”

“Exactly; I won’t tell them if you don’t. We keep the 1,100-gallon propane tank topped off by AmeriGas and the other tank was filled by Ferrellgas. We own the tank so they can’t complain. In fact, they’ll probably think we switched to AmeriGas.”

“What about holsters for the kids?”

“All 3 are about the same size and I went with The Marshall Crossdraw rigs and extra gunbelts. In fact the holsters are sets similar to ours in that they include crossdraw holsters. They’re sort of like the Big Jake rigs, but different.”

“Big Jake only carried a single revolver.”

“That’s why I phrased it that way. The belts are slightly different, too, but it isn’t that obvious.”

“Do you actually think we’ll end up using single action revolvers and black powder rifles?”

“I hope not. I’d much rather we experience what TOM’s characters experience, more ammo than they ever need and never fire a shot.”

“Like *Doomsday Preppers*?”

“The TV show or the story?”

“The story; they died of old age.”

“We’re not really downwind of anything in Colorado if the wind holds. But we’re the wheat basket of the central Midwest. There’s a good chance we might end up defending our crops.”

“How much money do we have available?”

“There’s over \$100,000 insurance money including the interest. Why?”

“Buy a Tac-50 and 5,000 rounds of Hornady 750gr A-MAX Match. Add the 10-42x56 Nightforce scope, the McCann night vision rail, a MUNS and a suppressor.”

“Jet or Elite Iron?”

“Whatever you can get, fast.”

“It’s going to take the BATFE some time to process the application.”

“Forget that, can you get one some other way?”

“I don’t know, maybe.”

“Do it!”

That wasn’t the first time that Kurstin told me to *Do it* and the last time worked out fairly well. So I did it and man did it cost. We bought a lot less gold than she imagined after dropping around fifty grand on the Tac-50 setup and it didn’t include any exploding bullets.

You've got to be Kidding Me – Chapter 5

We did manage to buy around \$50,000 worth of small denomination gold Eagles. We sat with baited breath waiting for the Israeli planes to take off and the announcement to come over the weather radio that the US was under nuclear attack. Nothing, nada, zip came over weather radio or mainstream media, except weather.

The operation occurred and it was above top secret. Only the involved militaries and Russia knew, of course. It was announced that Putin was making an unexpected trip to Washington, but no details were given. He stayed for 3 days and left with the comment that he couldn't find any common ground with Obama.

I can't understand that. We let them invade the Denver airport with paratroopers in a training exercise. What was that, a practice run for Red Dawn? You don't know about that?

Posted by EU Times on Apr 24th, 2012

A bizarre report prepared by the Federal Service for Military-Technical Cooperation that is circulating in the Kremlin today on the joint US-Russia military drills taking place next month in the State of Colorado says that the plans received from the Americans call for Russian Airborne Troops (VDV) during this strange exercise to "take and hold" the Central Intelligence Agencies (CIA) main facility, the National Security Agencies (NSA) main facility and the Denver International Airport (DIA).

The Federal Service for Military-Technical Cooperation is a federal body of executive authority responsible for monitoring and supervising the Russian Federation's international military-technical cooperation.

Russian Defense Ministry spokesman Colonel Alexander Kucherenko publically announced this 21-24 May "anti-terror drill" this Friday past noting that this will be the first time Russian airborne forces have held exercises with the US airborne forces on US territory. Colonel Kucherenko stated, "According to the exercise scenario, soldiers of the two countries will hold a tactical airborne operation, including the reconnaissance of imaginary terrorists' camp and a raid. After the operation, a helicopter will evacuate the soldiers." He further added that Russian airborne troops would be training with US special service weapons in these drills in Fort Carson, Colorado.

Puzzling to Russian military analysts about this exercise, this report says, are that according to the American plans, Russian airborne troops (using US weapons that they had previously trained with at Fort Carson) will fly to and then parachute from their planes having the objectives of seizing the CIA's main computer facility in Denver, the NSA's main computer facility in Bluffdale, Utah, and taking control of main runways and terminals of the Denver International Airport.

The purpose of seizing the Denver International Airport, this report continues, is for the evacuation of the key personal and equipment previously “freed” from the CIA’s Denver base, and the NSA’s base in Utah, who were, supposedly, under “imminent threat” from an unspecified enemy, according, that is, to the American scenario for this war game.

Not known to many Americans is that over the past decade both the CIA and NSA have transferred their main bases of operations to the Western US. The CIA announced their transfer to Denver in 2005 with many speculating their main base of operations has been placed beneath the Denver International Airport. The NSA, likewise, has transferred their main base of operation to Utah and created what is now called the United States biggest spy center in Bluffdale.

The Denver International Airport, aside from being the biggest airport in the United States, and having that countries longest runway, deserves special mention since it has been embroiled in controversy since it opened in 1994, and as we can, in part, read:

On the surface, Denver International Airport seems like any other modern airport. It’s new, it’s clean, it’s big, and it’s modern. But some investigators have found more to it than meets the eye. Much more. Claims abound that Denver International was designed and built by the Illuminati as the headquarters for the global genocide that will trigger the New World Order.

An Internet search for “Denver airport conspiracy” reveals that there is a lot of talk about this, and that the specific claims and observations are numerous. Here’s an overview of the basics. According to the conspiracy theorists, Denver already had a fine airport, Stapleton International. But despite widespread protests, Denver International was built and opened in 1995, with fewer runways, thus reducing Denver’s capacity.

Its construction began with five mysterious buildings that were completed and then buried intact, with the cover story that they were “built wrong”. Up to 8 levels of underground facilities are said to exist, and workers who go there refuse to answer questions about what they do. The entire airport is surrounded by a barbed wire guard fence, with the barbed wire angled inward, to keep people in, like a giant prison, not out like at other airports. And if viewed from the air, the runways are revealed to be laid out in the shape of a Nazi swastika. Questions about what the government might be doing in this underground base may have been answered in 2007, when fourteen commercial aircraft reported spontaneously shattered windshields as the presumed result of electromagnetic pulses.

Indoors, the airport gets even stranger. The Illuminati appear to have detailed their plans for global genocide and a New World Order in two large murals. The first depicts a huge Nazi soldier with dead women and children scattered around him, and the second shows Third World populations dying, a few elite species protected from the apocalypse in sealed containers, and the Mayan symbol for 2012 presiding over all.

In the floor near the murals is written “Au Ag”, the abbreviation for the deadly toxin Australia Antigen, evidently the Illuminati’s weapon of choice to accomplish the genocide. On other places, strange words in an unknown (possibly alien) language are written on the floors (“DZIT DIT GAIL” and others). Most telling of all is the granite monument that the airport claims is a time capsule. It’s emblazoned with the symbol of the Freemasons, well known among conspiracy theorists to be a major arm of the Illuminati, and engraved with the words “New World Airport Commission”.

And finally, the Queen of England, another alleged Illuminatus, has been secretly and anonymously buying up the property surrounding the airport.”

Also interesting to note, this report says, is that this entire exercise will be overseen by the “drone army” owned and operated by the University of Colorado who have over the past few years has applied for and obtained over 100 Certificate of Authorization’s (COA) from the US government to fly their pilotless surveillance aircraft for reasons still as yet unknown.

To the most puzzling question in the minds of Russian military analysts, this report concludes, is why the Americans are using Russian airborne troops to be the “protectors” of these vital US intelligence resources instead of the “aggressors” as has always been the case historically. One speculation in this report, however, does note that the scenario to be played out in late May, in Colorado, as planned by the Americans, does, indeed, mirror similar plans of the Russian General Staff of actions to be taken in the case of sudden civil war where “outside forces” would be called upon to protect the government from overthrow by internal forces or armed rebellion by the military.

That must have driven the Conspiracy Theorists nuts! There is another explanation for the Au Ag symbols. Au is the chemical symbol for gold and Ag is the chemical symbol for silver. We had quite a bit of Au and Ag on hand, just in case.

The Illuminati (plural of Latin illuminatus, *enlightened*) is a name given to several groups, both real (historical) and fictitious. Historically the name refers to the Bavarian Illuminati, an Enlightenment-era secret society founded on May 1, 1776. In more modern contexts the name refers to a purported conspiratorial organization which is alleged to mastermind events and control world affairs through governments and corporations to establish a New World Order. In this context the Illuminati are usually represented as a modern version or continuation of the Bavarian Illuminati.

It’s strange they didn’t mention The Roundtable or the Trilateral Commission or the Rothschilds. Rothschild family banking businesses pioneered international high finance during the industrialization of Europe and were instrumental in supporting railway systems across the world and in complex government financing for projects such as the Suez Canal. During the 19th century, the family bought up a large proportion of the property in Mayfair, London.

Major 19th century businesses founded with Rothschild family capital include:

- Alliance Assurance (1824) (now Royal & SunAlliance);
- Chemin de Fer du Nord (1845)
- The Rio Tinto mining company (1873) (From the 1880s onwards, the Rothschilds had full control of Rio Tinto)
- Eramet (1880)
- Imerys (1880)
- De Beers (1888)

The Round Table movement, founded in 1909, was an association of organizations promoting closer union between Britain and its self-governing colonies. The movement began at a conference at Plas Newydd, Lord Anglesey's estate in Wales, over the weekend of 4-6 September. The framework of the organization was devised by Lionel Curtis, but the overall idea was due to Lord Milner. Former South Africa administrator Philip Kerr became secretary to the organization.

Lionel Curtis founded the Royal Institute of International Affairs in June 1920. A year later its sister organization, the Council on Foreign Relations, was formed in America. One of the founders of the sister organization was another member of the roundtable groups, Walter Lippmann.

The Trilateral Commission is a non-governmental, non-partisan discussion group founded by David Rockefeller in July 1973, to foster closer cooperation among the United States, Europe and Japan. Sensing a profound discord between the nations of North America, Europe and Japan, the Trilateral Commission was founded to foster substantive political and economic dialogue across the world. To quote its founding declaration:

Growing interdependence is a fact of life of the contemporary world. It transcends and influences national systems...While it is important to develop greater cooperation among all the countries of the world, Japan, Western Europe, and North America, in view of their great weight in the world economy and their massive relations with one another, bear a special responsibility for developing effective cooperation, both in their own interests and in those of the rest of the world.

To be effective in meeting common problems, Japan, Western Europe, and North America will have to consult and cooperate more closely, on the basis of equality, to develop and carry out coordinated policies on matters affecting their common interests...refrain from unilateral actions incompatible with their interdependence and from actions detrimental to other regions... [and] take advantage of existing international and regional organizations and further enhance their role.

The Commission hopes to play a creative role as a channel of free exchange of opinions with other countries and regions. Further progress of the developing countries and greater improvement of East-West relations will be a major concern."

Zbigniew Brzezinski, a professor at Columbia University and a Rockefeller advisor who was a specialist on international affairs, left his post to organize the group along with:

Henry D. Owen (a Foreign Policy Studies Director with the Brookings Institution)

George S. Franklin

Robert R. Bowie (of the Foreign Policy Association and Director of the Harvard Center for International Affairs)

Gerard C. Smith (Salt I negotiator, Rockefeller in-law, and its first North American Chairman)

Marshall Hornblower (former partner at Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering)

William Scranton (former Governor of Pennsylvania)

Edwin Reischauer (a professor at Harvard)

Max Kohnstamm (European Policy Centre)

Other founding members included Alan Greenspan and Paul Volcker, both later heads of the Federal Reserve System. They left off Tom Foley who was North American Chairman of the Trilateral Commission and Henry Kissinger.

The Trilateral Commission initiated its biannual meetings schedule in October 1973 in Tokyo. In May 1976, the first plenary meeting of all of the Commission's regional groups took place in Kyoto. It was through these early meetings that the group affected its most profound influence, the integration of Japan into the global political conversation. Before these exchanges, the country was much more isolated on the international stage. Since its founding, the discussion group has produced an official journal called *Dialogue*.

The Bilderberg Group, Bilderberg conference, or Bilderberg Club is an annual, unofficial, invitation-only conference of approximately 120 to 140 guests from North America and Western Europe, most of whom are people of influence. About one-third from government and politics, and two-thirds from finance, industry, labor, education and communications. Meetings are closed to the public.

The role of the Bilderberg meetings in the flow of events since its founding in 1954 is a matter of debate among scholars and journalists, such as G. William Domhoff and Caroline Moorehead. In his 1980 essay *The Bilderberg and the West*, researcher Peter Thompson argues that the Bilderberg group is a meeting ground for top executives from the world's leading multinational corporations and top national political figures to consider jointly the immediate and long-term problems facing the West. According to Thompson, Bilderberg itself is not an executive agency. However, when Bilderberg participants reach a form of consensus about what is to be done, they have at their disposal powerful transnational and national instruments for bringing about what it is they want to come to pass. That their consensus design is not always achieved is a reflection of the strength of competing resisting forces outside the capitalist ruling class and within it.

Meetings are organized by a steering committee with two members from each of approximately 18 nations. Official posts, in addition to a chairman, include an Honorary Secretary General. There is no such category in the group's rules as a "member of the

group". The only category that exists is "member of the Steering Committee". In addition to the committee, there also exists a separate advisory group, though membership overlaps.

Dutch economist Ernst van der Beugel became permanent secretary in 1960, upon Retinger's death. Prince Bernhard continued to serve as the meeting's chairman until 1976, the year of his involvement in the Lockheed affair. The position of Honorary American Secretary General has been held successively by Joseph E. Johnson of the Carnegie Endowment, William Bundy of Princeton, Theodore L. Eliot, Jr., former US Ambassador to Afghanistan, and Casimir A. Yost of Georgetown's Institute for the Study of Diplomacy.

A 2008 press release from the 'American Friends of Bilderberg' stated that *Bilderberg's only activity is its annual Conference. At the meetings, no resolutions are proposed, no votes taken, and no policy statements issued* and noted that the names of attendees were available to the press. The Bilderberg group's unofficial headquarters is the University of Leiden in the Netherlands.

According to the 'American Friends of Bilderberg', the 2008 agenda dealt *mainly with a nuclear free world, cyber terrorism, Africa, Russia, finance, protectionism, US-EU relations, Afghanistan and Pakistan, Islam and Iran.*

It's a shame you can't look them up, well, you'll have to hurry, because the memberships is mind boggling.

Our dealer pushed the Hornady order and it was in before the Tac-50 or MUNS. The 5,000 rounds cost \$5 each. He didn't say where he got the Elite Iron suppressor and I didn't ask. I did pay the \$2,950 he wanted for it, despite that being nearly double Macmillan's price. OTOH, it wasn't registered. In case you're wondering, the rifle was dark earth, the only one they had in stock and it wasn't an A1 R2. The MUNS came directly from Omni Tech Partners Group, the manufacturer and was insured for \$11,000.

If you figure the rifle with accessories at ~11 grand, ammo at ~25 grand, the suppressor at ~3 grand and the MUNS at ~11 grand, you can see why we only had ~50 grand to invest in gold. We got the gold at a discount, but still...

While we were waiting for our ducks to get in a row, we got the firearms sighted in and began to practice at every available moment. Mom and Dad joined the kids and us and Kurstin's Mom and Dad showed up with, surprise, surprise, surprise Sergeant Carter, the same firearms that Mom and Dad had. The only difference was that her Dad was dressed up as Marshall Dillon. He was about 7" short for the role but was slender enough that he pulled it off. He also bought his rig from Alphonsos.



Gomer Pyle is still alive but Marshall Dillon died in 2011 and his brother, Jim Phelps, a year earlier. Maybe you remember Phelps from Stalag 17. He was the German spy in the barracks, according to Dad.

The attack came on Christmas day, 2013. We were hosting Christmas dinner this year, serving a Cure 81 Hormel ham, candied sweet potatoes, mashed potatoes with ham gravy, the traditional green bean casserole topped with onions rings, cranberry salad, pistachio salad and pumpkin pie with Cool Whip. The table had been cleared and the leftovers were cooling on the countertops.

We had the TV on looking for a football game when the EAS kicked in.

Standby for an announcement from the President

My fellows Americans,

NORAD has indicated incoming missiles from Russia, the People's Republic of China and off shore locations believed to be enemy SSBNs. Take shelter immediately. The Vice President is enroute to a secure site near the Capital and I'm approaching NORAD.

Please stay turned to weather radio for further announcements. You are advised to find the best shelter available in your area.

I'll be in touch

"I wonder if he means *I'll be back*. Let's get the leftovers to the shelter and moved as much of the pantry as we can. Does anyone need to do anything before we lock down?"

"I've got to get our weapons, ammo and LTS supplies. John, care to give me a hand?"

"Jack, if we're not back in 30 minutes, lock it down. You might want to check Dad's ring binders."

"Dad, I have to move the bales of straw in front of the barn doors."

"Make it snappy Jack. I doubt we're a target, but you never know."

We weren't and I was stacking the last half dozen bales of wheat straw in front of the front barn door when they returned. Mom, Kurstin and Darlene had moved everything to the shelter from the upstairs freezer, refrigerator and pantry. They were in the process of moving clothing to the shelter along with laundry supplies.

When I checked the generator to confirm it had kicked in, I noticed a second 30" concrete culvert that appeared to be directed towards the barn; the very same barn that was shielded by 4 layers of wheat straw. The big round bales packed end to end. The hay and grain for the livestock was stored in the hay loft.

The last truckloads of wheat were still in the grain trucks because the elevator had temporarily exhausted their storage space. The kids were inventorying the supplies on hand and Kurstin was updating the spreadsheet on the laptop. Justin Case had been there and picked up his T-shirt. The operative term had changed from Case to Time.

We also had to resolve a minor problem, 2 bedrooms and 3 adult couples. We moved Jack into the bunkroom with his sisters and gave the other bunkroom to Darlene and Jim. Who else haven't I identified? I know Dad's name, John, came up so that must mean Mom, whose name is Cheryl.

While we waited for the fallout to begin, we took time to load the firearms and or magazines. The kids got 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ " #6 shot for their Mossberg's and Cowboy loads in the firearms they would be allowed to carry. It would be awhile before they got to carry the M1As, 590A1s and PT1911s.

The outside radiation level barely rose above 60mR, a safe level. All the same we sheltered for 14 days to allow the level to fall further. We had gone to the barn daily via the tunnel using the mechanics creeper and tended to the stock. According to the CD V-700 the inside radiation level in the barn was barely above normal background level.

Once we were out and about, Jim and Dad went to check on their place. At least they didn't lose their entire herds. The herds were loaded onto their farm truck and hauled to our place. From now on, they would live with Mom and Dad in the farmhouse.

The raids began much sooner than expected. We had those 2 truckloads of wheat and livestock and “they” wanted it. “They” didn’t get it and many got a bullet in exchange for their efforts. We collected their arms, ammunition and anything of value before loading the dozen bodies onto a farm truck and dumping them on the north side of Liberal. Round 1 was good guys 12, bad guys 0.

“They” took time to reorganize and tried a second time, during the night. They received a demonstration of the MUNS equipped Tac-50. Good guys 5, bad guys ½, Dad received a minor flesh wound, a crease really, on his left arm. Although our equipment was high quality, we lacked military crew served weapons and the effective individual weapons like rockets, and grenades.

Jim took off the day following the attack, returning after midnight. He knew of an ammo issue location and gathered up some ammunition and a M2HB crew served heavy machine gun. His haul included 60 M72A7s, 240 m67 fragmentation grenades and other miscellaneous grenades. He had 100 cans of ammo for the Ma Deuce (10,000 rounds). He also had 4 cans of the explosive .50BMG ammo. He failed to locate any M18A1 Claymore mines. But, he got the next best thing, military explosive with fuze, wire and both kinds of caps plus 2 spools of det cord. The explosive was an RDX plastic explosive plasticized to be adhesive and malleable, commonly known as C-4 in the form of M112 charges.

“What’s the situation?”

“What do you mean by *what’s the situation*? We’ve been nuked like Grandpa always thought would happen. Our inventory of supplies is very good but could be better. We only have 480 exploding bullets but plenty of ammo and components otherwise. We’ve been attacked twice in a short period of time with none killed and you wounded. We’re going to need more diesel fuel for sure.”

“At least Obama didn’t get to declare himself President for life.”

“Grandpa always said *the opry ain’t over ‘til the fat lady sings*.”

“He wouldn’t dare!”

“Sure he would. We have a National Emergency, right? All he needs to do is issue an EO suspending elections until the situation sorts itself out. He’ll be limited on military forces to active duty because none of the National Guard or Reserves will answer a call up.”

“Jim, what was it like at the ammo supply point?”

“It was a ghost town. Can I make a suggestion?”

“What?”

“We should get the grandchildren Mini-14s. They’re similar enough to the M1As that they’ll learn how to clean the bigger rifles yet under powered enough that the kids can handle the cartridge. There were several tons of 5.56 at the issue point.”

“If you get the ammo, we’ll get the rifles.”

“Get the Ruger 20 round magazines.”

“Ok.”

“How’d you do on ammo?”

“Two pallets worth. The Mini-14s?”

“One for everyone. The tactical model with the collapsible/folding stock.”

“Twenty round magazines?”

“Not all that many. Got plenty of the 30 round magazines, though.”

“What about LBE?”

“More than we’ll ever use. We got some MultiCam gear while we were shopping.”

“Let’s get the magazines loaded and get the kids shooting first thing in the morning.”

After that, we really went shopping. We got 2 semis running and set about collecting diesel tankers. Sometimes the tankers had mixed loads and we ended up with gasoline whether we wanted it or not. We even found tankers carrying biodiesel, B100 and B20. We also located grocery delivery trucks and hauled them back to prevent the canned goods from freezing and keep the dry goods dry. Our greatest find was a shipment from Products Research, Inc. (PRI).

After every attack we noted deficiencies in our infrastructure and made improvements. While we weren’t short on ammo, it became a concern and we started shopping gun stores looking for surplus, scoring big. The ideal round for the loaded model M1A was the 168gr bullet and the ideal round for the Super Match was the M118LR 175gr BTHP bullet. We found more than enough of each and some of it was Black Hills. Good ammo but the cases were almost single use.

We were attacked 3 more times before the Liberalites got the message and stopped trying. We didn’t have any fatalities on our side despite having casualties. Dad was only the first and Jim and I overexposed ourselves at one time or another. We had Doc’s Antibiotics Guide even if we didn’t have all of the antibiotics or a means to determine the type of germ involved.

ADULT DOSAGE GUIDELINES				
Infection	Severity	Dose	Frequency	Usual Durations[†]
Urinary Tract	Acute Uncomplicated	100 mg or 250 mg	q 12 h	3 Days
	Mild/Moderate	250 mg	q 12 h	7 to 14 Days
	Severe/Complicated	500 mg	q 12 h	7 to 14 Days
Chronic Bacterial Prostatitis	Mild/Moderate	500 mg	q 12 h	28 Days
Lower Respiratory Tract	Mild/Moderate	500 mg	q 12 h	7 to 14 days
	Severe/Complicated	750 mg	q 12 h	7 to 14 days
Acute Sinusitis	Mild/Moderate	500 mg	q 12 h	10 days
Skin and Skin Structure	Mild/Moderate	500 mg	q 12 h	7 to 14 Days
	Severe/Complicated	750 mg	q 12 h	7 to 14 Days
Bone and Joint	Mild/Moderate	500 mg	q 12 h	4 to 6 weeks
	Severe/Complicated	750 mg	q 12 h	4 to 6 weeks
Intra-Abdominal*	Complicated	500 mg	q 12 h	7 to 14 Days
Infectious Diarrhea	Mild/Moderate/Severe	500 mg	q 12 h	5 to 7 Days
Typhoid Fever	Mild/Moderate	500 mg	q 12 h	10 Days
Urethral and Cervical Gonococcal Infections	Uncomplicated	250 mg	single dose	single dose
Inhalational anthrax (post-exposure)**		500 mg	q 12 h	60 Days
* used in conjunction with metronidazole				
† Generally ciprofloxacin should be continued for at least 2 days after the signs and symptoms of infection have disappeared, except for inhalational anthrax (post-exposure).				
** Drug administration should begin as soon as possible after suspected or confirmed exposure.				

This indication is based on a surrogate endpoint, ciprofloxacin serum concentrations achieved in humans, reasonably likely to predict clinical benefit. For a discussion of ciprofloxacin serum concentrations in various human populations, see **INHALATIONAL ANTHRAX – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**.

Conversion of I.V. to Oral Dosing in Adults: Patients whose therapy is started with CIPRO I.V. may be switched to CIPRO Tablets or Oral Suspension when clinically indicated at the discretion of the physician (See **CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY** and table below for the equivalent dosing regimens).

Equivalent AUC Dosing Regimens

Cipro Oral Dosage	Equivalent Cipro I.V. Dosage
250 mg Tablet q 12 h	200 mg I.V. q 12 h
500 mg Tablet q 12 h	400 mg I.V. q 12 h
750 mg Tablet q 12 h	400 mg I.V. q 8 h

THE USUAL DOSAGE AND FREQUENCY OF ADMINISTRATION OF DOXYCYCLINE DIFFERS FROM THAT OF THE OTHER TETRACYCLINES. EXCEEDING THE RECOMMENDED DOSAGE MAY RESULT IN AN INCREASED INCIDENCE OF SIDE EFFECTS.

Adults: The usual dose of oral doxycycline is 200 mg on the first day of treatment (administered 100 mg every 12 hours) followed by a maintenance dose of 100 mg/day. The maintenance dose may be administered as a single dose or as 50 mg every 12 hours.

In the management of more severe infections (particularly chronic infections of the urinary tract), 100 mg every 12 hours is recommended.

For children above eight years of age: The recommended dosage schedule for children weighing 100 pounds or less is 2 mg/lb of body weight divided into two doses on the first day of treatment, followed by 1 mg/lb of body weight given as a single daily dose or divided into two doses, on subsequent days. For more severe infections up to 2 mg/lb of body weight may be used. For children over 100 lb the usual adult dose should be used.

The therapeutic antibacterial serum activity will usually persist for 24 hours following recommended dosage.

When used in streptococcal infections, therapy should be continued for 10 days. Administration of adequate amounts of fluid along with capsule and tablet forms of drugs in the tetracycline class is recommended to wash down the drugs and reduce the risk of esophageal irritation and ulceration. (See ADVERSE REACTIONS.)

If gastric irritation occurs, it is recommended that doxycycline be given with food or milk. The absorption of doxycycline is not markedly influenced by simultaneous ingestion of food or milk.

Studies to date have indicated that administration of doxycycline at the usual recommended doses does not lead to excessive accumulation of the antibiotic in patients with renal impairment.

Uncomplicated gonococcal infections in adults (except anorectal infections in men): 100 mg, by mouth, twice a day for 7 days. As an alternate single visit dose, administer 300 mg stat followed in one hour by a second 300 mg dose. The dose may be administered with food, including milk or carbonated beverage, as required. Uncomplicated urethral, endocervical, or rectal infection in adults caused by *Chlamydia trachomatis*: 100 mg by mouth twice a day for 7 days.

Nongonococcal urethritis (NGU) caused by *C. trachomatis* or *U. urealyticum*: 100 mg by mouth twice a day for 7 days.

Syphilis-early: Patients who are allergic to penicillin should be treated with doxycycline 100 mg by mouth twice a day for 2 weeks. Syphilis of more than one year's duration: Patients who are allergic to penicillin should be treated with doxycycline 100 mg by mouth twice a day for 4 weeks.

Acute epididymo-orchitis caused by *N. gonorrhoeae*: 100 mg, by mouth, twice a day for at least 10 days.

Acute epididymo-orchitis caused by *C. trachomatis*: 100 mg, by mouth, twice a day for at least 10 days.

For prophylaxis of malaria: For adults, the recommended dose is 100 mg daily. For children over 8 years of age, the recommended dose is 2 mg/kg given once daily up to the adult dose. Prophylaxis should begin 1-2 days before travel to the malarious area and for 4 weeks after the traveler leaves the malarious area. Prophylaxis should be continued daily during travel in the malarious area and for 4 weeks after the traveler leaves the malarious area.

Inhalational anthrax (post-exposure):

ADULTS: 100 mg of doxycycline, by mouth, twice a day for 60 days. CHILDREN: weighing less than 100 lb (45 kg); 1 mg/lb (2.2 mg/kg) of body weight, by mouth, twice a day for 60 days. Children weighing 100 lb or more should receive the adult dose.

Infesting Organism	Medication of Choice	Alternative Medications
I. AEROBIC BACTERIA		
A. Gram Positive		

1. Staphylococci		
a. Non-penicillinase producing	PRP	Parenteral Cephalosporins, Vancomycin, Clindamycin
b. Penicillinase producing	Vancomycin	TMP/SMX
2. Streptococci		
a. Pyogenic groups A, B, C	Penicillin G -or- Penicillin V ± Gentamicin	Beta Lactams (Penicillins, Cephalosporins), Erythromycin, Azithromycin
b. Viridans	Amoxicillin/Clavulanate -or- Penicillin ± Streptomycin	Clindamycin + Ciprofloxacin, TMP/SMX
c. Enterococci (Group D)	Amoxicillin/Clavulanate -or- Penicillin ± Streptomycin	Clindamycin + Ciprofloxacin, TMP/SMX
3. Pseudomonas (Strep. Pneumoniae)	Penicillin G -or- Vancomycin ± Rifampin	Amoxicillin
B. Gram-negative cocci		
1. Neisseria catarrhalis	Penicillin G	Ceftriaxone, Cefuroxime, Cefotaxime
2. Neisseria gonorrhoeae	Ceftriaxone -or- Cefixime -or- Cefpodoxime	Oxfloxacin, other FQs
<i>C. Gram-negative bacilli</i>		
1. Escherichia coli	Cephalosporin -or- FQ -or- TMP/SMX -or- APA -or- Imipenem/Cilastatin	Cephalosporin, FQ, TMP/SMX, APA, Imipenem/Cilastatin
2. Enterobacter aerogenes	Imipenem/Cilastatin -or- Meropenem -or- APP + APA	
3. Klebsiella species	Parenteral 3 rd Gen Cephalosporin -or- FQ	APA, Ticarcillin/Clavulanate, Ampicillin/Sulbactam, Piperacillin/Tazobactam
4. Pseudomonas aeruginosa	APP -or- Anti-pseudomonal Cephalosporin	
5. Proteus		
a. P. mirabilis	Ampicillin	TMP/SMX
b. other Proteus species	Parenteral 3 rd Gen Cephalosporin -or- FQ	APA
6. Serratia species	Parenteral 3 rd Gen Cephalosporin -or- Imipenem/Cilastatin -or- Meropenem -or- FQ	Aztreonam, Gentamicin
7. Salmonella typhi	FQ -or- Ceftriaxone	Chloramphenicol, Amoxi-

		cillin, TMP/SMX, Azithromycin
8. Hemophilus species		
a. H influenzae	Cefotaxime -or- Ceftriaxone	TMP/SMX, Imipenem/Cilastatin, Meropenem, FQ
b. H. ducreyi	Azithromycin -or- Ceftriaxone	Erythromycin, Ciprofloxacin
9. Brucella species	Doxycycline	Doxycycline
10. Pasteurella species		
a. Francisella tularensis (tularemia)	Streptomycin -or- Gentamicin	Doxycycline
b. Yersinia pestis	Streptomycin -or- Gentamicin	Doxycycline
<i>D. Gram-positive bacteria</i>		
1. Bacillus anthracis	Penicillin G -or- Ciprofloxacin -or- Doxycycline	Erythromycin, Chloramphenicol
2. Corynebacterium species	Vancomycin	Penicillin G + APA
3. Diphtheroid species	Antitoxin + Erythromycin	Benzyl Penicillin G, followed by Penicillin VK
4. Mycobacterium tuberculosis	Isoniazid + Rifampin + Pyrazinamide	Add Ethambutol + FQ + Amikacin
5. Listeria monocytogenes	Ampicillin	TMP/SMX
II. ANAEROBIC BACTERIA		
<i>A. Gram-positive cocci</i>		
1. Streptococcus species	Penicillin G	Clindamycin
<i>B. Gram-positive bacilli</i>		
1. Clostridium species		
a. C. perfringens	Penicillin G ± Clindamycin	Doxycycline
b. C. novyi	Penicillin G ± Clindamycin	Doxycycline
c. C. histolyticum	Penicillin G ± Clindamycin	Doxycycline
d. C. septicum	Penicillin G ± Clindamycin	Doxycycline
e. C. sordellii	Penicillin G ± Clindamycin	Doxycycline
f. C. sporogenes	Penicillin G ± Clindamycin	Doxycycline
g. C. tetani	Metronidazole -or- Penicillin G	Doxycycline
<i>C. Bacteroides species</i>	Metronidazole	Clindamycin, Trovafloxacin
III. MISCELLANEOUS		
<i>A. Nocardia species</i>	TMP/SMX -or- Sulfonamide	Minocycline, Amoxicillin/Clavulanate
<i>B. Fusobacterium fusiforme</i>	Penicillin G	Clindamycin
<i>C. Calymmatobacterium granulomatis</i>	Doxycycline -or- TMP/SMX	Erythromycin, Ciprofloxacin

IV. ACID FAST BACILLI		
A. Mycobacterium species		
1. <i>M. tuberculosis</i>	Isoniazid + Rifampin + Pyrazinamide	
2. <i>M. kansasii</i>	Isoniazid + Rifampin + Ethambutol	Isoniazid + Pyridoxine + Ethambutol + Sulfamethoxazole
3. <i>M. avium intracellulare</i> complex	Clarithromycin + Ethambutol + Streptomycin + Clofazimine	Clarithromycin + Rifabutin + Ethambutol
4. <i>M. fortuitum</i>	Surgical excision	Amikacin + Cefoxitin + Probenecid, followed by Doxycycline or TMP/SMX
5. <i>M. marinum</i> (balnei)	Clarithromycin	
6. <i>M. leprae</i> (leprosy)	Dapsone + Rifampin	
V. ACTINOMYCETES		
<i>A. Actinomyces israelii</i> (actinomycosis)	Ampicillin –or– Penicillin G	Doxycycline
<i>B. Nocardia</i>	TMP/SMX –or– Sulfonamide (in high doses)	Minocycline
VI. CHLAMYDIA		
<i>A. Chlamydia psittaci</i> (psittacosis, ornithosis)	Azithromycin –or– Clarithromycin	Parenteral 3 rd Gen Cephalosporin + Azithromycin
<i>B. Chlamydia trachomatis</i>	Doxycycline –or– Azithromycin	Erythromycin, Ofloxacin
1. (trachoma)	Azithromycin	Doxycycline, Tetracycline
2. (inclusion conjunctivitis)	Doxycycline	Erythromycin
3. (pneumonia)	Doxycycline	Erythromycin, FQ
4. (urethritis)	Doxycycline	Azithromycin
<i>C. Lymphogranuloma venereum</i>	Doxycycline	Erythromycin
VII. FUNGI		
<i>A. Aspergillus</i>	Amphotericin B –or– Itraconazole	
<i>B. Blastomyces dermatitidis</i>	Amphotericin B –or– Itraconazole	Fluconazole
<i>C. Candida species</i>	Amphotericin B –or– Fluconazole	Increase dosages of first line agents
<i>D. Chromomycosis</i>	Surgical excision, then Itraconazole	Itraconazole
<i>E. Coccidioides immitis</i>	Amphotericin B –or– Itraconazole Fluconazole	
<i>F. Cryptococcus neoformans</i>	Amphotericin B –or– Fluconazole	Amphotericin B + Flucytosine
<i>G. Dermatophytes (tinea)</i>		

1. Tinea infections	Erythromycin –or– Terbinifine –or– Itraconazole –or– Fluconazole	Clindamycin 2% topical
2. Tinea versicolor	Ketoconazole	
H. Histoplasma capulatum		
1. Minor infections	Itraconazole	
2. Severe infections	Amphotericin B	
I. Mucor		
Amphotericin B		
J. Paracoccidioides brasiliensis	Itraconazole –or– Ketoconazole	Amphotericin B, Sulfonamide
K. Sporothrix schenckii	Itraconazole	Cutaneous: SSKI Extracutaneous: Amphotericin B
VIII. MYCOPLASMA		
<i>Mycoplasma pneumoniae</i>	Erythromycin –or– Azithromycin –or– Clarithromycin –or– FQ	Doxycycline
IX. RICKETTSIA		
Rocky Mtn spotted fever; endemic typhus (murine); tick bite fever; typhus, scrub typhus; Q fever	Doxycycline	Chloramphenicol
X. PNEUMOCYSTIS CARINII		
	TMP/SMX –or– Dapsone	Clindamycin + Primaquine, Pentamidine
XI. SPIROCHETES		
<i>A. Borrelia recurrentis</i> (relapsing fever)	Doxycycline	Erythromycin, Penicillin G
<i>B. Leptospira</i>	Penicillin G	Doxycycline
<i>C. Treponema pallidum</i> (syphilis)	Benzathine Penicillin G	Doxycycline, Tetracycline, Ceftriaxone
<i>D. Treponema pertenue</i> (Yaws)	Benzathine Penicillin G	Tetracycline
XII. VIRUSES		
<i>A. Herpes simplex</i>	Acyclovir	Famciclovir, Valacyclovir
<i>B. Herpes zoster</i>	Acyclovir	Famciclovir, Valacyclovir
<i>C. Influenza A</i>	Zanamivir	Rimantidine, Amantadine
<i>D. Hepatitis B</i>	Interferon Alfa	Lamivudine
<i>E. Hepatitis C</i>	Ribavirin	Interferon Alfa-2B

Abbreviations / Classifications:

APA (Anti-pseudomonal Aminoglycoside)

- Amikacin, Gentamicin, Netilmicin, Tobramycin

APP (Anti-pseudomonal Penicillins)

- Piperacillin, Mezlocillin, Ticarcillin, Piperacillin/Tazobactam, Ticarcillin/Clavulanate

FQ (Fluoroquinolones)

- Ciprofloxacin, Gatifloxacin, Levofloxacin, Lomefloxacin, Moxifloxacin, Ofloxacin, Pefloxacin, Sparfloxacin, Trovafloxacin
- PRP (Penicillinase-Resistant Penicillins)
- Cloxacillin, Dicloxacillin, Methlocillin, Nafcillin, Oxacillin,
- 1st Gen Cephalosporins:
- Parenteral: Cefazolin
 - Oral: Cefadroxil, Cephalexin
- 2nd Gen Cephalosporins:
- Parenteral: Cefoxitin, Cefuroxime
 - Oral: Cefaclor, Cefprozil, Cefuroxime acetil, Loracarbef (carbacephem classified as a cephalosporin)
- 3rd Gen Cephalosporins:
- Parenteral: Cefepime (sometimes classified as a 4th Generation), Cefoperazone, Cefotaxime, Ceftazadime, Ceftizoxime, Ceftriaxone
 - Oral: Cefdinir, Cefixime, Cefpodoxime proxetil, Ceftibuten
- SSKI: Super saturated Potassium Iodide solution
 TMP/SMX: Trimethoprim and Sulfamethoxazole

That's well and good, but where is the information on infections resulting from gunshots? The approach our wives took was to carefully debride the wound and flush it with an antiseptic. They'd add Neosporin crème or ointment, as required, and bandage. We were all current on all of our shots, including tetanus, so blood poisoning shouldn't be a problem.

The problem had been getting everyone to update their vaccinations. Those included all childhood vaccinations and the vaccinations one would get before going to the worst 3rd world county on the planet. Some of the vaccines were hard to come by and expensive, but such is life.

United States Vaccine Schedule

Vaccine	Birth	1 mont h	2 mo.	4 mo.	6 mo.	12 mo	15 mo	18 mo	19 - 23 m o	4-6 yrs	11- 12 yrs	19-26 yrs	≥27 years
Hepatitis B	Hep B	HepB			HepB								
Rotavirus			RV	RV	RV								
Diphtheria, pertussis, and tetanus			DTaP	DTaP	DTaP		DTaP		DTaP		DTaP	Td (every 10 years)	
Haemophilus influenzae type b			Hib	Hib	Hib	Hib							

Pneumococcal	PCV	PCV	PCV	PCV		PPSV 1
Polio vaccine (inactivated)	IPV	IPV	IPV		IPV	
Measles, mumps, and rubella				MMR	MMR	1 or 2 doses[2a]
Varicella (chickenpox)				Vari- cella	Vari- cella	2 doses[2b]
Hepatitis A				HepA (2 doses)		
Meningococcus					MCV	
Human papillomavirus vaccine					3 dos- es	3 doses[2c],3
Influenza				Influenza (yearly)		Year- ly ≥50

Range of recommended ages except certain high-risk groups. See references for more details including "catch-up" immunizations, and recommendations for high-risk groups

1. ^ ≥65 years; Pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine
2. a b c For all persons in this category who meet the age requirements and who lack evidence of immunity (e.g., lack documentation of vaccination or have no evidence of prior infection).
3. ^ Females

Missing from the table are the exotics, smallpox (eradicated), yellow fever and all those strange drugs they give the military because of a perceived potential problem. That's ok, we got them. In case something wasn't included in the table, the CDC list of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases includes:

- Anthrax
- Cervical Cancer
- Diphtheria
- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B
- Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)
- Human Papillomavirus (HPV)
- H1N1 Flu (Swine Flu)
- H5N1 Flu (Avian Flu, a work in progress)
- Influenza (Seasonal Flu)
- Japanese Encephalitis (JE) Lyme Disease
- Measles

Meningococcal
Monkeypox
Mumps
Pertussis (Whooping Cough)
Pneumococcal
Poliomyelitis (Polio)
Rabies Rotavirus
Rubella (German Measles)
Shingles (Herpes Zoster)
Smallpox
Tetanus (Lockjaw)
Tuberculosis
Typhoid Fever
Varicella (Chickenpox)
Yellow Fever

And there are 2 kinds of polio vaccine... get both! Two polio vaccines are used throughout the world to combat poliomyelitis (or polio). The first was developed by Jonas Salk and first tested in 1952. Announced to the world by Salk on April 12, 1955, it consists of an injected dose of inactivated (dead) poliovirus. An oral vaccine was developed by Albert Sabin using attenuated (live) poliovirus.

OPV is usually provided in vials containing 10-20 doses of vaccine. A single dose of oral polio vaccine (usually two drops) contains 1,000,000 infectious units of Sabin 1 (effective against PV1), 100,000 infectious units of the Sabin 2 strain, and 600,000 infectious units of Sabin 3. The vaccine contains small traces of antibiotics— neomycin and streptomycin – but does not contain preservatives. One dose of OPV produces immunity to all three poliovirus serotypes in approximately 50% of recipients. Three doses of live-attenuated OPV produce protective antibody to all three poliovirus types in more than 95% of recipients. OPV produces excellent immunity in the intestine, the primary site of wild poliovirus entry, which helps prevent infection with wild virus in areas where the virus is endemic.

The live virus used in the vaccine is shed in the stool and can be spread to others within a community, resulting in protection against poliomyelitis even in individuals who have not been directly vaccinated. IPV produces less gastrointestinal immunity than does OPV, and primarily acts by preventing the virus from entering the nervous system. In regions without wild poliovirus, inactivated polio vaccine is the vaccine of choice. In regions with higher incidence of polio, and thus a different relative risk between efficacy and reversion of the vaccine to a virulent form, live vaccine is still used. The live virus also has stringent requirements for transport and storage, which are a problem in some hot or remote areas. As with other live-virus vaccines, OPV initiated immunity by is life-long.

We also had a problem lacking an easy solution, 2 farms, thus 2 wheat crops. Since we grew winter wheat the only problem was the very late spring. We had a supply of open

pollinated heirloom seeds including red winter wheat, durum wheat, oats, corn, barley, alfalfa and clover. Dad and Jim decided to use their farm to reproduce the seeds and grow the crops on our farm. Jim and Darlene had planted evergreen windbreaks 3 layers deep encircling their fields and one had to get to the fields to see if crops were growing.

Then, they decided that that wasn't good enough and someone had to be at the other farm 24/7 to protect the crops against *rustlers*. You heard me, *rustlers*. Funny, I thought *rustlers* stole livestock. My list of synonyms in Word included thieves, robbers, poachers, pilferers and livestock thief. So, I saddled my horse, filled my saddle bags with .45 Colt and .45-70 and rode over. Their propane tank was dry and I radioed for a delivery truck of propane and more vittles (food).

With no one looking over my shoulder since I couldn't remember when, I dug out a bottle of my son's namesake and had a snort. I didn't figure I had much to worry about, yet, spring was on us and the plants were a long way from harvest. The downside to my riding over and them delivering propane was the tracks that got left. The snow wasn't all melted and a person didn't need to be Albert Einstein to follow the tracks.

Speaking of Albert Einstein, I downloaded the Einstein Files a few years back. It's a set of 14 pdf files that contain information collected by the FBI.

Dear Sir:

It is respectfully requested, in view of the mandatory Alien Exclusion Laws of the United States, and the laws making it a felony for any person knowingly to assist or permit certain classes of inadmissible aliens to enter the United States, that the American Consul General at Berlin, or Geneva, or any other American consular office at which application by Professor Albert Einstein for a passport visa may be made, be instructed to refuse and withhold such passport visa to Professor Einstein; or, if such passport visa has been issued, to suspend or revoke the same, in accordance with the laws and facts hereafter set forth and charged, under the requirement of Federal law making it a duty of citizens under penalty of the law, to make known to proper authorities certain facts within the knowledge of such citizens.

Can you imagine what would have happened if they hadn't let Einstein in? Does $E=mc^2$ mean anything to you? Yeah, huh! Never mind the formula was the basis for the A-Bomb, who wrote Roosevelt and urged him to do the Manhattan Project?

He was visiting the United States when Adolf Hitler came to power in 1933, and did not go back to Germany, where he had been a professor at the Berlin Academy of Sciences. He settled in the US, becoming a citizen in 1940. On the eve of World War II, he helped alert President Franklin D. Roosevelt that Germany might be developing an atomic weapon, and recommended that the US begin similar research; this eventually led to what would become the Manhattan Project. Einstein was in support of defending

the Allied forces, but largely denounced using the new discovery of nuclear fission as a weapon. Later, together with Bertrand Russell, Einstein signed the Russell–Einstein Manifesto, which highlighted the danger of nuclear weapons. Einstein was affiliated with the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey, until his death in 1955.

In English, 1 pound of material has a potential of $186,000^2$ pounds of energy. The figure 186,000 is the speed of light in miles per second in a vacuum. That's 34,596,000,000 pounds or 17,298,000 tons, e.g, 17.3Mt from one pound of matter at 100% efficiency. But fission is very inefficient. "Fat Man" is the codename for the atomic bomb that was detonated over Nagasaki, Japan, by the United States on August 9, 1945. The result was that in the Fat Man bomb, about 1 kilogram (2.2 lb) of the 6.2 kilograms (14 lb) of plutonium in the pit (about 17%) fissioned. In this process 1 gram (0.035 oz) of matter in the bomb was converted into the active energy of heat and radiation (see mass-energy equivalence for detail), releasing the energy equivalent of 21 kilotons of TNT.

On handing over control to the Atomic Energy Commission, Groves bid farewell to the people who had worked on the Manhattan Project:

Five years ago, the idea of Atomic Power was only a dream. You have made that dream a reality. You have seized upon the most nebulous of ideas and translated them into actualities. You have built cities where none were known before. You have constructed industrial plants of a magnitude and to a precision heretofore deemed impossible. You built the weapon which ended the War and thereby saved countless American lives. With regard to peacetime applications, you have raised the curtain on vistas of a new world.

Be careful what you wish for... God has a sense of humor... He may just give it to you. (A saying from Alcoholics Anonymous – 13 years and counting)

You've got to be Kidding Me – Epilogue

The world didn't destroy itself, just major portions and the US and Russia constituted those major portions. Seeing what they had wrought in their exchange gave the other nuclear powers pause for thought. They quietly dismantled and stored their weapons. Russia and the US had, by far, the majority of nuclear weapons in their active and inactive stockpiles; more in the inactive than the active by a large measure.

Country	Warheads active/total	Year of first test	CTBT status
The five nuclear-weapon states under the NPT			
United States	1,950 / 8,500	1945 ("Trinity")	Signatory
Russia (former Soviet Union)	2,430 / 10,000	1949 ("RDS-1")	Ratifier
United Kingdom	160 / 225	1952 ("Hurricane")	Ratifier
France	290 / 300	1960 ("Gerboise Bleue")	Ratifier
China	180 / 240	1964 ("596")	Signatory
Non-NPT nuclear powers			
India	n.a. / 80–100	1974 ("Smiling Buddha")	Non-signatory
Pakistan	n.a. / 90–110	1998 ("Chagai-I")	Non-signatory
North Korea	n.a. / <10	2006 (2006 test)	Non-signatory
Undeclared nuclear powers			
Israel	n.a. / 80–200	possibly 1979 (See Vela Incident)	Signatory

CTBT = Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty

NPT = Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty

Back when they had the trail drives and Wyatt Earp, Bat Masterson and those folks were around, Kansas was the Wild West. It is again, to an extent. People mostly ride horses and carry the old black powder arms, because they use black powder or Pyrodex, not because there isn't any smokeless powder. Smokeless powder is reserved for reloading the tired old brass from when we were kids.

Before Jim died, he managed to clean out that ammo distribution point and another he located. And I do mean cleaned out. The only thing left when he was done was dust. We had a few tons of 5.56 and it made pretty good trade goods when people settled down and stopped trying to take and started to barter and trade. We stripped plenty of belts of 7.62 for the M1A loadeds, too. The hard to come by Match grade 7.62 for the

Super Match rifles came from many a source... from the Black Hills to Georgia, USA... American Ballistics.

7.62mm M118 Long Range cartridge utilizing our special 175gr match bullet and match cases has extremely uniform muzzle velocity with excellent standard deviation and ballistic coefficient (.495 BC). This cartridge is designed specifically to ensure and obtain unsurpassed shooting accuracy and performance at distances of up to 1350 yds. This is mission-designated applications ammunition for Military and Law Enforcement, elite special ops groups both in the United States and abroad. This is brand new, "Made in USA", first quality, ammunition. It is not 10 year old surplus or PD reject ammo. This is the real deal! 25ea. 20 round boxes. Proudly manufactured In Georgia USA. *Ships By FedEx Ground/Home Only *Due to demand usually Ships In 1-7 Business Days.*

I wouldn't count on the delivery information that I put in italics. Your best bet was to use some of the biodiesel and take a semi. Get all you could and salvage on the way down and back. The price was \$575 plus shipping for 500 rounds. Not bad, considering. Our children now grown and married took over the farming operations, producing hard red winter wheat on our 600 acres and the durum wheat, corn, oats, barley, clover and oats on Kurstin's farm.

The farms supplied the area residents and we had expanded the garden on Kurstin's farm. Bartered labor saw the garden tended to and the produce canned. Additional farms were placed in production producing enough wheat to export throughout the state.

We never heard from the President again, *he didn't come back*. In the intervening years, state governments were reestablished. The only arm of the federal government that finally made an appearance was the US military and then only in their role of providing for the common defense. The cost of maintaining the military was borne by the states, contributing in proportion to their share of the national population.

Kurstin and I made a final tour around the country, inspecting the fallen cities and those few remaining national monuments. The most secure monument was the military park at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

The attacks were aimed primarily against counter value (civilian) targets with only a few counter force (military) targets being taken out. While there were lots of people at Gettysburg, they were long dead. Depressed by the destruction, we called the trip short and returned home.

Our children and their children would have the task of restoring this once great country. I had a physical last week and was cautioned to take it easy due to a heart problem. The new Doc didn't have much in the way of medications. He did give me some herbal remedies. I explained about our immunizations immediately before the war. He said that put us up a couple of steps on the area population. Our old Doc's records listed those in the area who'd done the same... it was a short list.

We have 10 grandchildren with 2 on the way. They'll come in handy in a few years when the final farm equipment breaks down beyond repair. Those labor obligations will really come in handy then. I've got to pause and reload some of the .45 Colt and .45-70-405 ammo using the last of the Pyrodex. I heard that Hodgdon is back in business so we might have to make a trip to Overland Park, Kansas.

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